

A Bicentennial Reminder

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 SO BAPT HIS SOCIETY

Your Heritage: Religious Freedom

By J. Terry Young, Associate Professor of Theology
New Orleans Seminary

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Thus the First Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees religious freedom, a precious heritage of American life through these two centuries of our history. But it did not come easily.

In our day we take religious freedom for granted. We are occasionally reminded of our forefathers suffering under the tyranny of religious oppression in Europe. They braved unknown seas to found a new civilization in the New World of the Americas. They chose to face death rather than endure the religious oppression of England and the Continent.

What many do not realize is that America came within a hair's breadth of having a state church system similar to that of many European nations.

The first settlers in America were fleeing from the religious persecution of a state church system, but it was not in their minds to establish religious freedom in America. Their idea was rather to establish their own particular church as the official church. Thus, Roger Williams was forced to flee from the Massachusetts Bay Colony to Providence, Rhode Island, in

1639 to find religious freedom. Perhaps Williams, who was a Baptist, sounded the first trumpet call for religious freedom in America.

Between 1768 and 1777, some 83 Baptist preachers in Virginia suffered persecution, 44 of them serving prison terms. Their only crime was preaching Baptist doctrines.

Christian stalwarts like Rogers Williams, William Scoville, Obadiah Holmes, Isaac Backus, John Clarke, and John Leland struck telling blows for religious liberty. As the American nation took shape they insisted that religious freedom be made one of the fundamental freedoms reserved to the citizens. It is thought that their influence upon James Madison led him to secure the first amendment guaranteeing complete religious freedom, including the separation of church and state. Why did they valiantly fight for the right of religious liberty?

Christianity teaches that every individual has the responsibility—and the right—to make his own peace with God. Religious faith and commitment cannot be coerced either by ecclesiastical or secular authorities. Conversely, no power can stand between man and God. Secular government, which is ordained of God to regulate the ordinary affairs of men, can

(Continued on page 3)



"Betsy Ross" Flag

It measures 19 feet by 10 feet and was completely hand sewn by Mary Lou Jernigan of Weldon, N. C., for a course in history on the Bicentennial at Meredith College, a senior, Baptist-related, liberal arts school in Raleigh, N. C. Like the original flag of the United States of America, Miss Jernigan's flag is red, white, and blue with 13 stripes and 13 stars to represent the 13 original colonies. Unlike Betsy Ross' silk flag, Miss Jernigan's handwork is made of polyester. The Meredith college May, 1975, graduate's flag took about seven months to make and cost \$50. Her only problem was finding a table large enough to do the cutting. It is being used by the college for Bicentennial observances. (BP) Photo by W. L. Norton, Jr.

Church Tax Privileges To Remain, Corman Says

WASHINGTON (BP) — A member of the House Ways and Means Committee told the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs here in its semiannual session that any tax reform law in the present Congress will not include changes in the deductibility provisions for gifts to churches and other charities.

Rev. James C. Corman (D-Cal.) also expressed the view that the tax reform measure will not alter current tax laws which allow gifts of appreciated property to charitable institutions and permit ordained ministers tax-free use of

church-owned parsonages.

Corman, who has long pushed for a comprehensive tax reform package, said that "no matter what I do," the provision for appreciated property gifts will be left unchanged. Corman opposes that provision of tax law, but assured the Baptist group that "there just isn't anything I can do to get the law changed." He described that provision as "one of the more scandalous tax shelters that will be left" following the expected passage of some tax reform bill during this Congress. (Continued on page 2)

Five Fabulous February Sundays Campaign Set

NASHVILLE — "Five Fabulous Sundays" is a Sunday School attendance campaign for Southern Baptists capitalizing on the unusual occurrence of five Sundays in February of 1976.

A. V. Washburn, secretary of the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, said the campaign was designed to create excitement and, through outreach, promote increased attendance in Sunday

School.

The last time February had five Sundays was in 1948. The year 2004 will be the next time for the five-Sunday February to occur.

"Five Fabulous Sundays" should involve every class and department in the Sunday School. The emphasis encourages visitation of class and department members as well as prospects in a drive to have a high attendance

(Continued on page 2)

Situation "Pitiful"

Baptist Relief In Angola Temporarily Discontinued

LUANDA, Angola (BP) — Southern Baptist relief efforts to refugees in war-torn Angola have been forced to at least a temporary close by a breakdown in transportation lines across that nation. Southern Baptist missionaries

assigned to Angola met with W. Eugene Grubbs, disaster relief coordinator for the Foreign Mission Board, and voted to suspend relief operations until freight and shipping lines could be opened for goods to be received.

Pastor Urges 'Pay As You Go' For Southern Baptist Churches

HOUSTON (RNS) — The Rev. John Morgan of Sagemon Baptist Church says he was astounded when he encountered a list showing the total debt of Southern Baptist Churches in the Houston area.

The churches here collectively owe \$27.2 million.

When Mr. Morgan determined

how much the churches are spending for interest on that debt and compared that amount to the amount the churches are spending on missions, he says he was even more astounded.

His figures show that collectively the 230 Southern Baptist churches in Harris County spent \$4.4

(Continued on page 2)

Three major political groups, divided primarily along tribal boundaries, have been fighting for control of the soon-to-be independent overseas state of Portugal in a civil war that likely will continue until one group has gained complete domination.

The Carmona area, north of Angola, harbors the greatest concentration of displaced persons, including refugees reentering the country after fleeing to Zaire, the African nation to the north of Angola. Although more Baptists are in this area than in others, some Baptists are among all three groups. The National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNL) controls the area.

The middle of Angola and the seaports of Lobito and Luanda are controlled by a second political group, the Popular Mo

(Continued on page 2)

Mills

Baptist pastors and their wives and Baptist deacon chairmen and their wives will be participants Nov. 21-22 in a conference at First Baptist Church, Oxford, Miss.

Among the program personalities will be Lambert Mills, a Baptist deacon and the commissioner of public works for Mobile, Ala. Another deacon to be a part of the program is David J. Falkner, a member of Pearson Baptist Church in Pearl and general aviation operations

(Continued on page 2)

Pastors, Deacons, Wives To Attend Conference

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(Continued on page 2)



Liaison Committee

A liaison committee elected by the directors of associational missions will work with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board staff and the directors of missions in promoting understanding of the total effort of the two groups. Left to right, above, are Rev. J. W. Brister, director of missions in Gulf Coast Association; Dr. W. Leon Moore, Attala Association; Rev. Leon Young, Lauderdale Association; Rev. Maurice Flowers, Jones Association; and Rev. J. C. Mitchell, Pontotoc Association.

Church-State Matters

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Agency Expands Services; Discusses Current Issues

WASHINGTON (BP) — An expanded program of denominational services will be provided by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, according to an announcement made at the semiannual meeting of the committee here.

In addition, the committee addressed itself to a number of

church-state issues that are alive on the national scene. Among them were public funds in aid of parochial schools, pending legislation affecting lobbying activities in Congress, the right of privacy, and false rumors that periodically are spread through the nation.

Stan L. Hasty was named the

new coordinator of denominational services for the Baptist Joint Committee. Since January, 1974, Hasty has been assistant to W. Barry Garrett, director of information services.

In this new capacity, Hasty will have special responsibilities in denominational services, will serve as managing editor of Report

from the Capital, the Baptist Joint Committee publication, and will continue to provide press coverage from Washington under the supervision of the director of information services.

James E. Wood Jr., as part of his duties as executive director, will become the editor of Report from the Capital, which, for the past several years, has been edited by Garrett.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs is a denominational agency located in the nation's capital. It is maintained by nine Baptist denominational bodies in the United States and Canada, including the Southern Baptist Convention. Its special assignment is to work in the areas of religious liberty, church-state relations, and public policy that affects or is affected by denominational concerns. Arthur B. Rutledge, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, is the chairman.

John W. Baker, director of research services for the Baptist Joint Committee, in his report on public aid to nonpublic schools, pointed out the four tests of con-

(Continued on page 3)

All Six SBC Seminaries Have Increased Enrolments

NASHVILLE (BP) — Increasing enrolments at Southern Baptists' six theological seminaries this fall suggest a surge of increasing interest in ministry, the church and theological education among the denomination's younger generation.

At the same time, all the campuses are at or nearing capacity in housing, with shortages creating difficulty in placing students on at least two campuses. But all registered students have been housed.

Whatever the differences in

Pastors' Retreat Set Oct. 27-29 At Garaywa

Howard Foshee, secretary of the Church Administration Department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, in Nashville, Tenn., will be one of a list of program personalities Oct. 27-29 for a Baptist Pastors' Retreat at Camp Garaywa near Clinton. Foshee's opening address will

be on "How To Keep Growing in your Job." He will bring two staff members from the Nashville Church Administration office. Dr. Reggie McDonough will

Foshee speak on "How To Give Away your Job." John Ishee will lead two features titled "The Pastor Looks at Himself" and "Pastor, How Do You Like Yourself?"

Another out-of-state personality

(Continued on page 2)

interpreting enrolment statistics and totals among the schools and there are some—the fact remains that the seminaries are experiencing overall growth.

More than 7,000 students have enrolled at the six seminary campuses of Southern Baptists this fall. Last year, the fall total was about 6,000. Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth and Southern Seminary in Louisville, both reporting record enrolments this fall, are believed to be the world's largest and second largest accredited seminaries, respectively.

Enrolment figures for seminaries in the Association of Theological Schools last year (1974-75) in the United States and Canada showed that Southern Baptists' six theological schools were all in the top 36 in enrolment, with four in the top 11.

Fall enrolment totals from the six Baptist schools were reported by spokesmen for the individual seminaries. Totals given are for fall terms only and do not indicate totals for the entire academic year at the six seminaries.

Southwestern Seminary led the six schools with a record fall enrolment of 2,892 students, including 108 in its new graduate level, branch program in Houston, according to L. L. Collins, registrar.

(Continued on page 3)

John Ward

Joins Annuity

Board Staff

DALLAS — John B. Ward of Sherman, Tex., has been appointed assistant director in development for churches by the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention here, effective October 16.

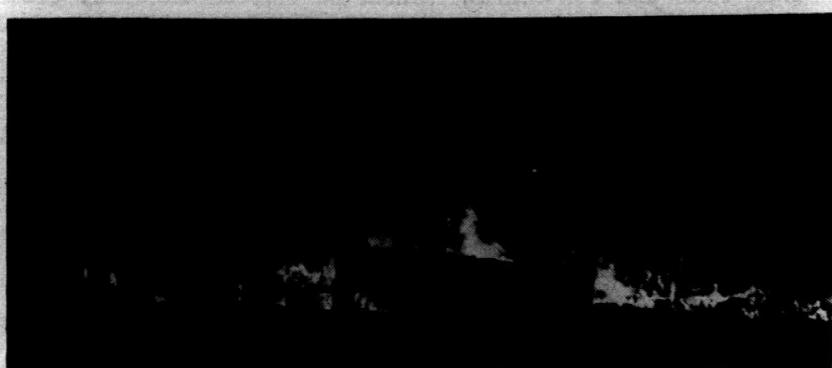
Ward, 55, has been serving as minister of music and administration at First Baptist Church, Sherman, for four years.

Earlier, he served churches in

(Continued on page 3)



The deacon chairman and pastor comfort each other as they watch the flames eat away the remaining portions of the buildings of Locust Street Baptist Church in McComb. At left is Deacon Chairman Eddie May, and at right is Pastor Robert Dunn.



During the height of the fire that destroyed Locust Street Baptist Church in McComb it was reported that the flames were visible across town.

First SBC Lay Renewal Conference Oct. 24-26

Ken Medema, nationally known blind song writer, pianist and vocalist, and Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, will make presentations at the first Southern Baptist Lay Renewal Conference Oct.



Medema McCullough

24-26 in Atlanta.

Medema, a New York City Baptist, will sing at each session of the three-day "celAYboration" at Quality Inn in Presidential Park, Ga.

McCullough will close the conference with a major address, focusing on God's new people in evangelism, ministry, discipleship, fellowship, and action.

The "celAYboration," sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission and Home Mission Board, is expected to attract about 400 Southern Baptist pastors and lay persons from the Southeastern part



ACTION Night In Jackson

Rev. E. S. (Andy) Anderson of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, explains his new ACTION Program to Mississippi pastors and Sunday School workers at First Baptist Church, Jackson. Almost 700 attended the meeting. Rev. Bryant Cummings, director of the Sunday School Department for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was in charge of the meeting. Dr. A. V. Washburn, secretary of the Sunday School Department for the Sunday School Board, also attended.

Pastor Urges 'Pay As You Go' For Southern Baptist Churches

(Continued from page 1) million last year on debt retirement. About half of that amount went for interest. Last year, the churches expended \$3.7 million on missions.

Mr. Morgan says he decided to do something about the situation, and began his own backyard, so to speak.

He asked his congregation, Sagemont Baptist in southeastern Houston, to reduce its indebtedness and to turn to a pay-as-you-go building program.

The church recently moved into the first of its new pay-as-you-go projects, a new education and office building. Completed and furnished at a cost of \$170,000, it is debt free.

The congregation told the builder "that we were going to build only what we could pay for,"

Mr. Morgan said. "We claimed the promise of Philippians 4:19, 'For my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches.'

"To raise the money," he added, "all we did was tell the people we were going to build what God was going to provide for us. We had no thermometers in front of the church to show how much had been given toward the goal. We had no fund-raising drive."

The church's next goal: to pay off the \$380,000 owed on its other four buildings.

Mr. Morgan believed that goal would be a worthy one for other Baptist churches. "I contend that the reason the church is unable to accomplish much of its ministry is its indebtedness to the world," he says.

Locust Street Church Moves Into Theater Following Fire

Members of the Locust Street Baptist Church in McComb are meeting in the State Theater in downtown McComb due to the complete destruction of the church's physical plant Oct. 8 in an early morning fire.

In fact, this week the church is engaged in a revival meeting in the theater building with Rev. Glenn Savell of Pascagoula doing the preaching.

Rev. Robert Dunn is pastor of the church.

"The people are closer together than ever before," Rev. Dunn

Rutledge To Speak At Home Mission Study Institute

Dr. Arthur B. Rutledge, executive secretary of the Home Mission Board, will be at Camp Garaywa November 18, for a statewide Home Mission Study Institute.

Dr. Rutledge, author of TOMORROW STARTS TODAY, the adult book in the Home Mission Graded Series, will be talking about "missions in the third century," the topic of the home missions emphasis for 1976.

Teaching techniques for each age level will be presented during afternoon sessions.

Directing the group for teachers in the adult division will be Ethel McKeithen, Baptist Women Director, Mississippi WMU, and Frances Shaw, Baptist Young Women Director, Mississippi WMU.

Instructing teachers in the Youth Division will be Marilyn Hopkins, Acteens Director, Mississippi WMU. Working with leaders of younger children, Waudine Storey, Mission Friends — GA Director, Mississippi WMU.

Mrs. Helen Allan of WMU, SBC, Birmingham, will be directing the preschool division leaders. Mrs. Allan is the author of SEE WHAT I SEE, an undated guide designed for preschoolers and suggested for use during the Home Mission Emphasis.

The meeting will be from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18. Cost for the day is \$2.25, which includes lunch, insurance, and registration fee. If you plan to attend please send your name and address to Marjean Patterson, Box 530, Jackson, MS 38203 by November 14.

Five Fabulous February Sundays Campaign Set

(Continued from page 1) each Sunday of the campaign with a possible record attendance on the fifth Sunday.

Every possible class member in the Sunday School is signed up before the first Sunday of the campaign as a beginning for the emphasis. Each week other Sunday School members, visitors, new members and prospects are signed up as a pledge to attend. By the end of the campaign the number of pledges for attendance could reach an all-time high in many churches.

The only item needed for the "Five Fabulous Sundays" campaign is the "Five Fabulous Sundays Packet," which contains sign-up slips, department charts, large seals, small seals, and instructions for use. One packet should be ordered for each 100 Sunday School members.

Eugene Skelton, general administration consultant in the Sunday School department of the Sunday School Board, commented that "many churches would reach their highest attendance ever by enthusiastically conducting the campaign."

The materials in the packet are not dated and may be used over any five Sunday period. The packet may be ordered from the materials services department of the Sunday School Board. Cost for each packet is \$4.

Sharkey-Issaquena Association To Meet At Anguilla

Sharkey-Issaquena Association will hold its annual meeting at Anguilla Church, October 20 and 21. It was previously announced that the meeting would be at Valley Park Church, but the place has been changed because Valley Park is in the midst of building a new church plant.

said. The abandoned theater had been donated to the city by the previous owner. The city made it available to the church until new buildings can be erected. The members entered into a full-scale clean-up campaign and dedicated the theater in services on Saturday night following the fire. They met in a home on Wednesday. In a business session, in spite of the fire losses, the members adopted a 1976 budget that called for an increase over this year in missions giving, the pastor indicated.

The insurance program had been reviewed and increased last year, through it still would not likely cover the entire loss, Rev. Dunn said. The building was insured for \$90,000, and there was \$15,000 in insurance on the contents.

The church plans to rebuild completely.

In preparation for its revival, the church was engaged in cottage prayer meetings during the week following the fire. Attendance at the prayer meetings ran as high as 87, the pastor declared.

Church Tax Privileges To Remain

(Continued from page 1)

Corman also told the Baptist Joint Committee that his proposed "Health Security Act," a bill calling for national health insurance, would remove "all financial barriers" to adequate health care for every American.

The measure, known as the Kennedy-Corman Bill, is being sponsored in the House by Corman and in the Senate by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.). It calls for a broad-based compulsory program of national health insurance to be financed in part from the treasury's general fund and in part through payroll deductions similar to the present Social Security deductions.

The California congressman said that although federal programs such as Medicare and Medicaid help the aged and very poor and were steps in the right direction, the present health care delivery system is "fragmented" and "unfair." He accused the medical profession of "charging what the traffic will bear."

The Kennedy-Corman plan would set up about 200 health care regions across the country, with financing provided from the federal government on an equitable basis. A board of trustees would negotiate with doctors, hospitals, and other health care deliverers in each region to establish fees schedules.

Corman predicted that if the plan were to go into effect, doctors and hospital administrators would be "reasonable" in helping establish a workable program. He said also that the objection of national health insurance opponents that such a system would inevitably be abused by over-use is without foundation in that over-use occurs now and is actually encouraged by many physicians.

The Baptist Joint Committee, composed of representatives from nine Baptist bodies in the U.S. and Canada, declined later in its meeting here to adopt a resolution endorsing the concept of national health insurance. The proposed statement, which referred to adequate health care as "a basic human right," was tabled when it became apparent that the group could reach no consensus on the issue.

Vernon served on the mission field in Brazil during two stints with the Foreign Mission Board. He became a foreign missionary in 1946 and served until 1966. In that year, he came to the Sunday School Board as a consultant in long-range planning. He rejoined the FMB in 1968 and served another seven years as a missionary to Brazil.

Effective Oct. 1 of this year, the conference center program and promotion section is responsible for programming and promoting Ridgecrest (N.C.) and Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Centers. The new section was developed by action of the board's trustees last February.

Bicentennial Feature

Court Unable To Convict Accused Baptist Preacher

CULPEPPER, Va., May 1770—(BP)—Another brilliant victory was won here in the battle for religious freedom in Virginia when James Ireland, a Baptist minister charged with preaching without authority from the state church, was released because a jury could find no fault in a just man.

Arrested while conducting a Baptist meeting because he had no license from Virginia's state church, Ireland spent five months in Culpepper County jail, during which two attempts were made on his life and he was forced to endure torture, abuse, and insults.

When the king's attorney read the indictment against Ireland and asked, "Guilty or not guilty?" Ireland replied, "Not guilty, and if 500 witnesses are not enough to prove these charges are invalid, then I can produce a thousand."

The Baptist crusader for religious liberty doubtless made no idle boast. The courthouse was filled with his friends and supporters, who were overjoyed by his release. While Ireland was in prison, many of them faced threats and bodily harm to hear him preach from his cell window. On one occasion horses were ridden into the crowd and many were trampled.

When magistrates were unmoved by his defense, Ireland produced a license signed by Governor Botetourt granting him permission to build a meetinghouse in Culpepper County and to serve as pastor. This action caught the prosecution completely off guard, but authorities still seemed determined to return the minister to jail.

At this point a lawyer came to Ireland's defense, pointing out that he was being charged with violating laws which had been repealed 70 years ago and had never been in effect since.

As the prosecution now seemed to be fully routed, the county parson, in the interest of the state church, attempted to rally the magistrates. This was more than the defendant could bear, and he announced that he would gladly argue the case in open court with the parson.

"And if I am unable to confute him," Ireland told the court, "I will return to prison as a volunteer!"

The minister had so skillfully parried every thrust of the prosecution that the court realized the folly of pursuing the case further. The foreman of the jury picked up his hat and quietly left the courtroom. Soon others followed until the bench was empty.

The clerk of the court went through the formality of asking Ireland if he would appear if summoned and the case was dismissed. Now the Baptist minister is free again for the first time since November to build a meetinghouse and preach to his rapidly growing congregation.

Prepared for Baptist Press by the Southern Baptist Historical Commission, Nashville.

Pastors' Retreat Is Set Oct. 27-29 At Garaywa

(Continued from page 1)

will be Dr. Harold Bryson, pastor of Eastdale Baptist Church, Montgomery, Ala., who will lead

activities of the retreat.

Pastors, Deacons,

Wives To Attend

Conference

(Continued from page 1)

inspector for the Federal Aviation Administration in Pearl.

The conference will begin at

5:30 p.m. on Nov. 21 and conclude

at 12:10 p.m. on Nov. 22. Leon

Emery, church administration

consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said the purpose of the conference will be

to "provide an opportunity of fellowship and sharing for pastors, deacon chairman, and their wives, to equip pastors and deacon chairmen to train other deacons, to provide a climate of encouragement for working together, and to give direction for involving deacons in the ministry of the church."

Four consultants with the Church Administration Department of the Sunday School Board will be program personalities.

They are James Barry, Charles Treadaway, Brooks Faulkner, and Francis Martin. Martin is editor of The Deacon magazine.

Two Mississippi pastors will be on the program. They are Dr. J.

Roy McComb of First Baptist

Church, Pearl, and Rev. Lewis

Sewell, of First Baptist Church,

Oxford. Others to appear will be

Truett Roberts, minister of music

at First Baptist Church, Nashville,

and Chester Vaughn, program di-

rector, Mississippi Baptist Con-

vention Board, Jackson.

Mims is a member of River-

side Baptist Church in Mobile and

a former president of the Baptist

state convention in Alabama.

He will direct the music.

The retreat will begin at 10 a.m.

Oct. 27 and close with lunch on

Oct. 29.

Rev. Norsworthy will conduct a

worship period; and Chester

Vaughn, program director for

the Mississippi Baptist Convention

Board, will present moments of

inspiration. Dan Hall, director of

the Church Music Department for

the Mississippi Baptist Convention

Board, will direct the music.

The retreat will begin at 10 a.m.

Oct. 27 and close with lunch on

Oct. 29.

Rev. Kilgore, Church Loan director for the Home Mission Board,

addresses a joint meeting of the directors of associational mis-

sions and Baptist Building staff members.

Directors Of Missions Meet

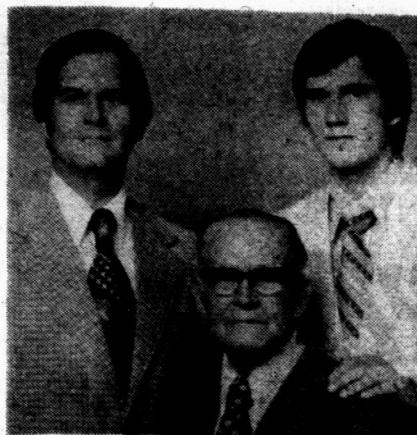
Robert Kilgore, Church Loan director for the Home Mission Board,

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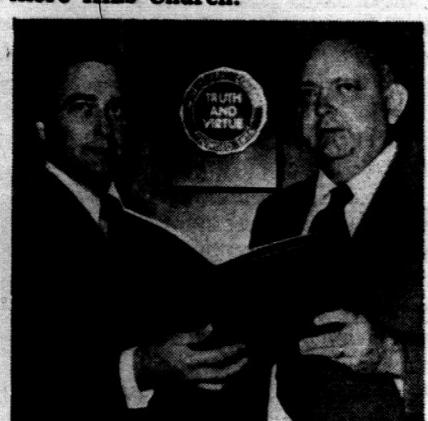
Three Generations In The Ministry

Pictured are three generations of ministers in the Barney Walker family.

Rev. Barney Walker, Sr., seated, has been in the ministry for 55 years. Most of that time was spent pastoring churches in Mississippi, including Temple in Jackson, Tunica, Forest and Poplarville. Mr. Walker also was an independent evangelist for a time and has authored the book, *Seven Spiritual Ships*. Presently retired from the active ministry, he lives with his wife, the former Norma Mayfield, at 3638 Southland Drive in Jackson. Their children are Mrs. Jim (Justyne) Richardson, Birmingham, Alabama; Mrs. Stan (Virginia) Masson, Winter Park, Florida; Mrs. Dick (Valda) Miller, Jackson; Barney, Jr., Houston, Texas; Pat, Memphis, Tennessee; and Mrs. Bob (Martha Jane) Stoeltzing, Olathe, Kansas. There are also 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Rev. Barney Walker Jr., standing left, is pastor of Garden Oaks Church, Houston, Texas. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Houston Baptist University, where he received an honorary Doctor's degree in May of this year. Within the past month he has returned from South Africa where he participated in a preaching mission sponsored by the Baptist World Alliance. He and his wife, the former Jane Evans, are parents of David, Becky and Ann.

David Walker, standing right, is the son of Barney Jr., and is a recent honor graduate of Houston Baptist University where he was named Mr. Houston Baptist University. While a student he served as youth director at First Baptist Church in Houston. This summer he accompanied a choir from the church to points in Europe. Currently he is enrolled at Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, and is serving as youth director at Sagamore Hills Church.



Allstate Gives Nursing Scholarship

Peter G. Wood (left), public affairs manager for the Allstate Foundation, presents a monetary grant to Dr. Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, for use in the scholarship program of the Mississippi College School of Nursing. The Foundation has been helping the nursing school for several years. (M.C. Photo by Bob Rampey)

Agency Expands Services; Discusses Issues

(Continued from page 1)
stitutionality that have been developed by the Supreme Court. They are Primary purpose: The primary purpose of the government in providing aid to schools must be secular and not religious. Primary effect: The primary effect of government aid to schools must be secular rather than religious. The question here, according to Baker, is does the state action inhibit or advance religion or is that action essentially neutral religiously? Excessive entanglement: Does the state action lead to an excessive entanglement of government with religion? Does it require that the state be involved in such activities as participation in administration, in supervision of programs, etc.? Divisiveness: Does the state action create a divisiveness among citizens along religious lines?

Wood, speaking to the issue of public aid to church schools, warned the committee that in spite of Supreme Court decisions denying such aid the parochial and private school interested are continuing to work to discover constitutional ways to obtain public funds for their schools.

A number of proposals are before Congress, according to Baker, designed to define more precisely the requirements for lobbyists. These proposals, if enacted into law, he said, could seriously affect the work of the churches in exercising their influence on the formation of public policy.

Consequently, the Baptist Joint Committee passed a resolution asking Congress to exempt churches, associations of churches, or conventions of churches from certain tests that might be used by the Internal Revenue Service to restrict the tax exempt status of charitable agencies seeking to influence legislation.

In discussing the right of privacy, Wood and Baker pointed out that the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579) is a most important legislative victory for the right of privacy. Baker explained, "This act provides for the safeguarding of individual privacy against the misuse of federal records, including the right of an individual to have access to his record, to challenge items therein, and to have the records corrected when necessary."

Earlier this year, at its March meeting the Baptist Joint Committee approved a policy position that "the right of privacy is the foundation of civil and religious liberty." The committee appealed to the President and to Con-

gress "to set limits on and standards for the collection and dissemination of information dealing with the private affairs of individuals and groups and to exercise diligent oversight of information-collecting agencies."

In another paper presented to the committee, Garrett review-

ed false rumors relating to government and religion. "Many people, hearing these rumors, become alarmed, circulate petitions, and otherwise become disturbed over what they think is government action against religion," he said.

He urged people, when they

hear such rumors, to double-check with responsible sources of information before they come to their conclusions and before they waste their energies seeking to stop the supposed government action that never was a threat in the first place.

Baptist Relief In Angola Is Discontinued

(Continued from page 1)
ment for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

The eastern area of Angola is controlled by the National Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). This area includes Nova Lisboa, where several thousand Portuguese people are now gathered awaiting flights to their homeland aboard charter airplanes before Angola receives total independence, Nov. 11. Portuguese soldiers remaining in the country will leave with these refugees.

All three groups are unwilling to make the agreements needed to allow relief supplies to pass beyond the area they control. Well fed refugees become potential enemies.

"We have cancelled all immediate plans for relief," said Davis L. Saunders, secretary for eastern and southern Africa, "but we're still probing, trying to find out what we can do. The situation gets worse everyday."

Grubbs said 50 to 60 tons of goods had been distributed before the political situation became so tense.

Harrison H. Pike, missionary to Angola for eight years, said the situation is pitiful. "They are starving; and we have food, money, and medicines which we can't get to them."

Pike feels the situation is critical, and his assessment is backed by other relief agencies trying to provide aid to the displaced.

Baptist relief efforts will resume when the political climate stabilizes, allowing freedom to ship and distribute relief supplies, according to the Foreign Mission Board.

Missionaries Resume In Violence-Ridden Beirut

BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries and Lebanese Baptists have decided to reopen the Baptist Seminary and Beirut Baptist School here even though a lasting peace is doubtful.

"The missionaries in Lebanon (seven families) plan to go on with normal activity as much as possible. Morning church services are being held. The seminary . . . and the Beirut Baptist School will open . . . (in October). Both hope to function normally," said J. D. Hughey, secretary to Europe and the Middle East for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"Missionaries are working in the midst of uncertainty," Hughey continued, "but they are working."

Heavy fighting and strict cur-

fews had previously kept missionaries close to their homes and forced a near standstill in certain areas of work. Although fighting continues, Missionary James W. (Bill) Trimble reports that shops and banks are open spasmodically and that the embassy has planned no evacuation.

Missionaries on furlough and volunteers have begun to reenter Lebanon. Previously the airport area was thought unsafe. Missionaries to Lebanon felt now was as good a time as any to reenter the country. One couple and two single missionaries will return from furlough in time for the opening of the Beirut Baptist School.

The American Community School has reopened with Lebanon missionaries' children attending.

ly established by government. Neither may it be given preferential treatment.

- No religious group or teaching may receive government support or promotion even though such support is offered to all alike.
- No government funds can be expended to support any religious activity or institution.
- No person may be required to support any religious group or teaching.
- Every person shall have the right of religious freedom. Religious faith is a voluntary matter arising from the heart of a man and must neither be coerced nor restricted by government in any way.

In the words of Thomas Jefferson, one of the framers of the Constitution, "We have erected a wall of separation between church and state." Religious liberty is a precious American heritage accorded to all our people.

Preserving religious freedom and maintaining the wall of separation between church and state are continuing tasks. The price of religious liberty is vigilance. You also should be a watchman on the wall. Stay alert for any attempt to weaken or destroy this precious freedom. Inform yourself and those about you. When you see a danger sign, raise a cry of alarm. Governmental personnel are sensitive to the voice of the individual citizen. Express yourself—often!

We have enjoyed two hundred years of religious liberty in America, but only because Baptists and others have kept a watchful eye on those who would compromise this precious heritage. Remember, the price of liberty is vigilance.

In this Bicentennial time, lead your church in a special religious liberty observance. You may well want to invite the community at large to join you in this celebration of religious liberty. Religious liberty stands at the heart of our American heritage as well as of our Christian doctrine.



Left to right: Jerry Merriman, associate in the Department of Student Work; Mrs. Ron Mitchell, BSU director at Jones; Mrs. Ralph Winders, director, Department of Student Work; Cherie Jones, BSU president; Don Ball, music chairman.

New BSU Center Dedicated At Jones JC

The Baptist Student Union of Jones Junior College dedicated their new BSU Center September 28. Located at 105 Ash street, the attractively furnished building

will facilitate a new dimension of student ministries.

The building was acquired in April of this year through the diligent work of the area committee and the churches. Some renovation was necessary and the Student Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention assisted by providing new carpet, drapes, and furniture.

The building contains in addition to offices for the director and secretary; a chapel, a conference and reading room, two lounges, a kitchen and rest rooms. A spa-

calvary, Macon Calls Landrum

Rev. James M. (Jim) Landrum has accepted the pastorate of Calvary Church, Macon, and began his ministry there on October 12.

The Jackson native graduated July 18 of this year from Southwestern Seminary, with a Master of Divinity degree. He graduated from Mississippi College in 1970.

He is married to the former LaVerne Gray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gray of Fordyce, Arkansas, and graduate of Arkansas A & M College. The couple met while both were student summer missionaries in Oregon. They have two children, Jonathan Mark, 3, and LaVerne Renee, one.

From 1970 to 1972, the Landrums were US-2 missionaries with the Home Mission Board in Riverside, California, where he was chaplain for the Sherman Indian High School.

During seminary years he was head of a convalescent home ministry and worked in the Baptist Book Store at Southwestern.

He is the son of Rev. and Mrs. John W. Landrum of Clinton. His father is pastor emeritus, First Church, Grenada.

(Continued from page 1)
That figure included 921 new students for the fall, a 45 percent increase in new students over last year at this time. Enrollment at Southwestern last fall was 2,304, Collins said.

At Southern Seminary, updated registration figures hit a record 1,791, up 22.7 percent over the 1,459 fall total last year, according to Wesley M. Patillo, vice-president for development. Of that total, 1,639 are degree and diploma students. The remaining 152 are in evening school and other certificate programs, Patillo said.

Southern's new entering class was a record-breaking 721, a 45.8 percent increase over the same time last year, he noted.

Moving toward the Atlantic seaboard, enrollment at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., was the largest in the school's 25-year history, with the entering class representing a 29.8 percent increase over last fall. Total fall enrollment at Southeastern was 976, compared with 837 for the same period last year, according to Rodney Byard, assistant to the president for institutional development.

At New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, enrollment this fall was 727, "up slightly over last year at this time," according to Ray P. Rust, executive vice-president. Rust said enrollment at the New Orleans-based school has increased about 10 percent each year over the last three to four years.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., reported that with a week left to go in its fall registration, a record 353 students had enrolled, compared with a 335 total enrollment for fall, 1974, according to Nobel D. Brown, director of admissions and dean of students.

The 1975 fall figures, thus far, include students enroled in Golden Gate's Los Angeles and Sacramento centers, which reported 27 and five students respectively, and nine at the seminary's new center on the Grand Canyon College campus in Phoenix, Ariz., Brown said.

Golden Gate early predicted its largest new, incoming class since its beginning days in 1946. "That projection has proven true al-

Six Seminaries Have Increases In Enrollment

ready, even with our incomplete registration to date," Brown said. New students entering this fall easily total more than 54 percent over last fall, he added.

Enrollment at the end of the first two four-week terms, as of Oct. 1, 1975, totaled a record 327 in regular credit courses at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., plus 91 in evening school classes, according to the seminary's registrar.

The 327 figure at Midwestern is a 6.2 percent increase over last fall for the same two terms. Midwestern has experienced record enrolments for the last three academic years, it was noted. Based on enrollment figures to date, indications are that this trend will continue, the registrar said.

The housing situation was most critical at Golden Gate and Southwestern. Stanton H. Nash, assistant to the president at Golden Gate, termed the housing situation there as "very critical," adding, "We're jammed tight, with students having to go off-campus because of the lack of housing. Some have delayed coming to the seminary."

John Ward Joins Annuity Board Staff

(Continued from page 1)
Lawton, Seminole, Shawnee, and Tulsa, Okla.; West Palm Beach, Fla.; Shelby, N.C.; and Plainview and San Antonio, Tex. He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

In development work with the Annuity Board, Ward will assist Harold S. Bailey, vice president and director of development for churches, according to Darold H. Morgan, Annuity Board president.

The development office works closely with Baptist state conventions in enlisting pastors and others on church staffs in retirement and insurance programs available through the Annuity Board. It also promotes periodic improvement of individual plans to keep pace with rising costs of living.

Your Heritage: Religious Freedom

(Continued from page 1)
neither require nor restrict the religious beliefs and practices of men.

Our American pattern of religious freedom is often reduced to a misleading designation: the separation of church and state. Religious liberty includes the separation of church and state, but it is much more. Religious liberty means that each person has an inalienable right to choose or not to choose religious beliefs or practices. The individual is responsible only to himself, and ultimately to God, for his choices in religion. This is a political truth of the Constitution, and Baptists further believe that it is the theological truth of the Bible.

An immediate reaction to the idea of the separation of church and state is that the two are essential allies. How can they be separated? The state guarantees the right of the church and its members to worship and work in the community. If necessary, it provides police power to insure that right. The state provides an ordered society in which the church may prosper. On the other hand, the church furnishes citizens of sound character and integrity to serve as leaders in the state. Occasionally it raises its voice to prick the conscience of the state and the public at large. At times it may play the prophet's role. But the two have distinctly different responsibilities. They must remain separate in their mutually complementary roles.

The separation of church and state means that one must not—cannot—interfere in the affairs of the other. Specifically, what does this mean? It means at least the following:

- No religious test can be required of any public official.
- No religious group may have jurisdiction over any governmental matter.
- Government may not have jurisdiction over religious matters.
- No religious group or teaching may be endorsed or officially

preserved by government. Neither may it be given preferential treatment.

—No religious group or teaching may receive government support or promotion even though such support is offered to all alike.

—No government funds can be expended to support any religious activity or institution.

—No person may be required to support any religious group or teaching.

—Every person shall have the right of religious freedom. Religious faith is a voluntary matter arising from the heart of a man and must neither be coerced nor restricted by government in any way.

In the words of Thomas Jefferson, one of the framers of the Constitution, "We have erected a wall of separation between church and state." Religious liberty is a precious American heritage accorded to all our people.

Preserving religious freedom and maintaining the wall of separation between church and state are continuing tasks. The price of religious liberty is vigilance. You also should be a watchman on the wall. Stay alert for any attempt to weaken or destroy this precious freedom. Inform yourself and those about you. When you see a danger sign, raise a cry of alarm. Governmental personnel are sensitive to the voice of the individual citizen. Express yourself—often!

We have enjoyed two hundred years of religious liberty in America, but only because Baptists and others have kept a watchful eye on those who would compromise this precious heritage. Remember, the price of liberty is vigilance.

In this Bicentennial time, lead your church in a special religious liberty observance. You may well want to invite the community at large to join you in this celebration of religious liberty. Religious liberty stands at the heart of our American heritage as well as of our Christian doctrine.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

A Scripture Verse For Every Day

In the Gideon Bibles which now are found in almost every hotel and motel room, and in hospital rooms, there is an outline inside the cover telling where to find Scriptures to meet certain needs. What a blessing this must be to an individual who is burdened with sorrow or trouble, or is being tested by difficult problems or temptations. The Word of God does have the answer to every need of the human heart, and individuals are wise who turn to it for guidance, counsel or comfort.

Many Christians allow the Scriptures to speak to their hearts each day, as they meditate upon its pages. Some seek out a special verse or passage as the meditation or portion for that day. Every Christian needs to learn to use the Word of God in this way, turning to it often, to let God speak to him through it.

Many years ago an old preacher talked to me about a passage of Scripture which he called his "life verses." He said that every morning he read them or repeated them, and considered their meaning as he faced the new day. I had known these verses, but they came to have new meaning as this old saint expounded their truths to me, I did not know it then, but God was giving them to me to be my guide in the days which were then immediately ahead.

The passage was Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths."

The preacher was Dr. W. E. Hunter, who was at that time pastor of the First Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky., down in the mountains of the Bluegrass state. We had been attending the state evangelistic conference in Louisville, and on that Wednesday, I was riding with him on my way to a small mountain town near his city, where I was to

preach that night. I was a young preacher, pastor in Paducah in Western Kentucky, and Dr. Hunter was an elderly man, not far from retirement. He talked of many things that day, but only the discussion of the "life scripture" has remained in my memory. The preacher is long gone to be with his Lord, but the scriptures he taught me to love will remain in my heart always. Within hours after he called them to my attention, they began to have special meaning.

Our trip across the Bluegrass country, and then down into the mountains was through heavy rains. The clouds poured forth their flood mile after mile without any sign of letup. In Somerset I caught a bus to go further into the mountains, and the downpour continued. That night I preached in the little church, but the crowd was small because of the heavy rains. After an evening in the home of a deacon, I caught a 2:00 a.m. train back to Louisville, and the deluge just seemed to grow heavier. I watched the drops as they formed little rivulets on the car windows, as the train rumbled through the night.

In Louisville the next morning, I found the city in the bustle of preparation for a flood, for the waters of the Ohio river were on a rampage, and were rising rapidly. Somehow I made contact with my father-in-law who was attending the conference with me, and we were able to catch the noon train back to Paducah where we lived. It proved to be the next to last train to leave Louisville for Paducah before the floods stopped all traffic. As the train wended its way westward it seemed that the valleys through which the tracks ran all had become rivers, with water stretching from hill to hill. How the train got through it I do not know, for the waters were continuing to rise, and the rains continued to fall.

When we reached Paducah, a

message was awaiting me at the railroad station, that my family was at Bro. Riley's home in the hill section of the city. My home and church were in a lower area, not far from the river, and already the rising waters had cut that section off. Before it was over the water had stood for many days in the church and in my home, and in the homes of about 98% of our members. No services were possible for about two months, and the coming weeks were like a nightmare, as we sought to salvage what we could, and start up again.

Through all of this, however, something was ringing in my heart. It was the scripture verse that the old preacher had taught me, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths."

We could not understand why these things should happen. There was no human reasoning to explain such an experience. Yet, the Lord had told us to trust him. That we learned to do. We did seek to acknowledge him in it all, and we did find that he does direct the paths of his children.

Through the years since then we have come to an even deeper understanding of these words. Life brings varied experiences to all of us. Sometimes there is joy and sometimes there is sorrow. Sometimes there is victory and sometimes defeat. Sometimes ease and sometimes difficulty. Sometimes weakness and sometimes power. Sometimes comfort and sometimes suffering. In them all, however, whatever may come, we can say, "I will trust in the Lord with all my heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all my ways I will acknowledge him, and I know that he will direct my paths."

They are verses for every day, verses for all of life.

A Religious Opportunity

One of the world's best known Christians right now, is the Dutch woman, Corrie ten Boom, and Mississippians are going to have the opportunity of hearing her on Sunday afternoon, October 26, in the Mississippi Coliseum at 2:45 p.m. (Originally the program was set for a different date, but this is correct.)

Corrie ten Boom was a member of a family which hid and protected Jews from the German hordes as they overran Holland. Finally, they were apprehended, with the aged father dying soon after his arrest, and Corrie and her sister being sent to the dreaded prisons where hundreds of thousands of Jews and others were murdered. The sister did die there, but through a clerical error Corrie was released. She gives the Lord the credit for that release. She has told her story in several books, and God opened the way for her to become a world witness to Christ. Her book "The Hiding Place" now has been made into a moving picture by the Billy Graham film organization, and is beginning its premieres in theaters across the country. It is scheduled to be shown in Mississippi next Spring.

Corrie ten Boom is a woman of amazing faith, and tremendous witness. This is her first appearance in the Mid-South, and Mississippians by the thousands should hear her. Since she is not American and not Baptist, we may not agree with some of her theology, but she is a glorious Christian and her message should inspire and challenge every Christian. We hope you can hear her.

A WOMAN'S WORTH by Elaine Stedman (Word Books, \$4.95, 168 pp.) This book grew out of Mrs. Stedman's own search for identity as a Christian, wife, mother, counselor, and friend. She explores such questions as: Who am I? What does it mean to be human? What about my sexuality? My equality? What is the true role of a servant? and who am I in relation to the Old and New Testaments? Her book affirms that the underlying solution for all of our identity struggles is the Word of God. No person — man or woman — can become all that God intends without first submitting to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



ILLUMINATES THE SOUL

THE BAPTIST FORUM

Defends Charismatics

Dear Sir:

Why are we Baptists so defensive about the Holy Spirit and what He can do? It's as if we seek to limit God's power to just that which we know.

In one Southern Baptist publication after another of late has come a barrage of words concerning charismatics, as if we feel we must defend ourselves against what is going on in evangelical religion today.

In Joel 2:28, God promises "that I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions."

Couldn't it just be that we are now, in that time prophesied in Joel? As Southern Baptists we have been taught to believe that the only time the Holy Spirit actually enters one's heart is at the moment he accepts Christ. Must we remain stoic so that we cannot at least admit the possibility of something more happening today?

It's a little bit disturbing to me that while we sit back and criticize the charismatics and those who believe in the "baptism of the Spirit," very often those individuals who claim to have received the baptism are the ones who are reaping fruit for God's kingdom.

And we, who are so steeped in our once saved, always saved "ticket to heaven" philosophy see no need for anything more than what we have. So we watch our churches grow cold and cease to bring others into God's kingdom.

Even if we do not believe in the baptism for ourselves, why can't we enjoy what's happening to others around us? Why can't we savor the great experiences some are having and be thankful?

We are said to believe the Bible in its entirety. So why do we have to get defensive about such passages as 1 Corinthians 14, in which the Apostle Paul tells us we should desire spiritual gifts?

Now I realize Paul is saying that prophecy is more important, as is teaching with understanding, but I also see that he does not leave out talking with God through the Spirit, or "speaking in tongues."

In verse 15, he explains his feeling when he says, "I will pray with the Spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."

He is saying that speaking in tongues edifies the individual. And that in church, the body should be edified, so every thing done should be done in an orderly fashion, even to speaking in tongues (which should be done with an interpreter so all can understand).

Now, I should make it clear that I am not what is called "charismatic." But that doesn't keep me from seeing the wonderful ebullience of the Spirit coming out of the lives near me.

And I thank God for those deep believers in the world, both charismatic and non-charismatic. God has a different plan for all of us. On that we should agree.

For some, it may be a steady growth or maturity as Christians. For others, there may need to be a one dramatic experience, as Paul experienced. Salvation is that way; why not Christian experience?

There is definitely an outpouring of the Spirit of God in the world today. If we Baptists are careful not to condemn the evidences of this outpouring, but to watch while God works where He will, and in what ways He will, we just might have some of this Spirit poured out on us.

Ruth Jensen
Drew, Miss.

Light for Living

— Chester E. Swor

Life: Both Lights And Shadows

One would be a human ostrich, indeed, if he were not aware of the vast amount of discouraging news and indisputable statistics of wrong-doing in our world; but, on the other hand, he would be a blind and incurable pessimist not to see and admit that there are lights as well as shadows in the behavior of contemporary life. Let's look at a few of those bright spots.

In a recent year in an Italian university, there was a sit-in on the part of architecture students who were demanding — not shorter classes, easier assignments, or longer holidays: they were demanding harder class-work, stiffer exams, lectures by more successful practicing architects. They claimed that the curriculum was not difficult enough to fit them for competition in this day.

Students in a Southern university staged a demonstration to protest a too-large emphasis upon intercollegiate sports and a too-little emphasis upon academic excellence in that school. Turn those events over in your mind if you have been discouraged about contemporary collegians!

Discouraged about the sad state of music, fearing that rock and roll will sound the death-knell to the more cultural types? Listen to this: our country has more than half of the more than 2,000 symphony orchestras in the world now, as against only 100 in our nation fifty years ago. More money has been spent in recent years on tickets to concert music than to professional baseball games; over 30,000,000 Americans play at least one musical instrument; there are hundreds of summer music festivals and music camps every summer. Doesn't that start a melody in your heart?

And if you need some additional assurance that we have light as well as shadow in our nation, rejoice in these facts: more Americans finish high school than in any other nation; more adults continue education than anywhere else in the world; we have special education programs to meet the unusual needs of handicapped and disadvantaged students and more vocational training than any other society has ever dreamed of. . . . The buying of good books has more than doubled in recent years . . . 50 million of our citizens contribute time and 15 billion dollars to charity every year. . . . And almost 75 percent of our people consider religion to be very important.

Here's a good conclusion: things are hardly, if ever, as totally black as they may seem; so, it may be good counsel not to succumb to the darkness of discouragement until we hear the whole story!

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Joe T. Odie Editor
Don McGregor Associate Editor

Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

William H. Sellers Bus. Manager

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Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Baptist Building

Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: J. B. Fow-

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NEWEST BOOKS

PRISON LETTERS by Corrie ten Boom (Fleming H. Revell, \$3.95, 90 pp.) These deeply-moving letters are being shared by the author of *The Hiding Place*. They were the only tie between Corrie, her loved ones and the outside world during the time that she and her sister were in a German concentration camp. Besides the miraculously preserved letters, there are snatches of a diary by Betsie and a collection of perceptive sketches of prison life written by Corrie and smuggled out of camp by a sympathetic soldier. Through these writings shines the same faith that guided Corrie through a time of trial and triumph.

CREATIVE CHURCH ADMINISTRATION by Lyle E. Schaller and Charles A. Tidwell (Abingdon, \$4.95, paper, 208 pp.) Enthusiasm, involvement and know-how are the key words for creative church administration, say the authors. This book provides the accumulated experience of thousands of churches — what they did wrong and what they did right — to meet growing needs of the church today and the church of the future. Schaller is consultant, research and writer for Yokefellow Institute in Richmond, Ind. Tidwell, a former Mississippian, is professor of church administration at Southwestern Seminary.



SCRAPBOOK

October's Bright Blue Weather

O suns and skies and clouds of June,
And flowers of June together,
Ye cannot rival for one hour
October's bright blue weather.

—Helen Hunt Jackson

How many harvests
have I known
with the rain of falling leaves
sun-coloring my thoughts?
How many times
have I heard winter whisper
as winds rattled bare boughs.
hints of snow and ice?
How many poems
have I dreamed
but did I paint
the fading green of sycamores
that turns into copper
or forget October's music
of lonely bird calls
in a cloudy sky?

Mood On The River

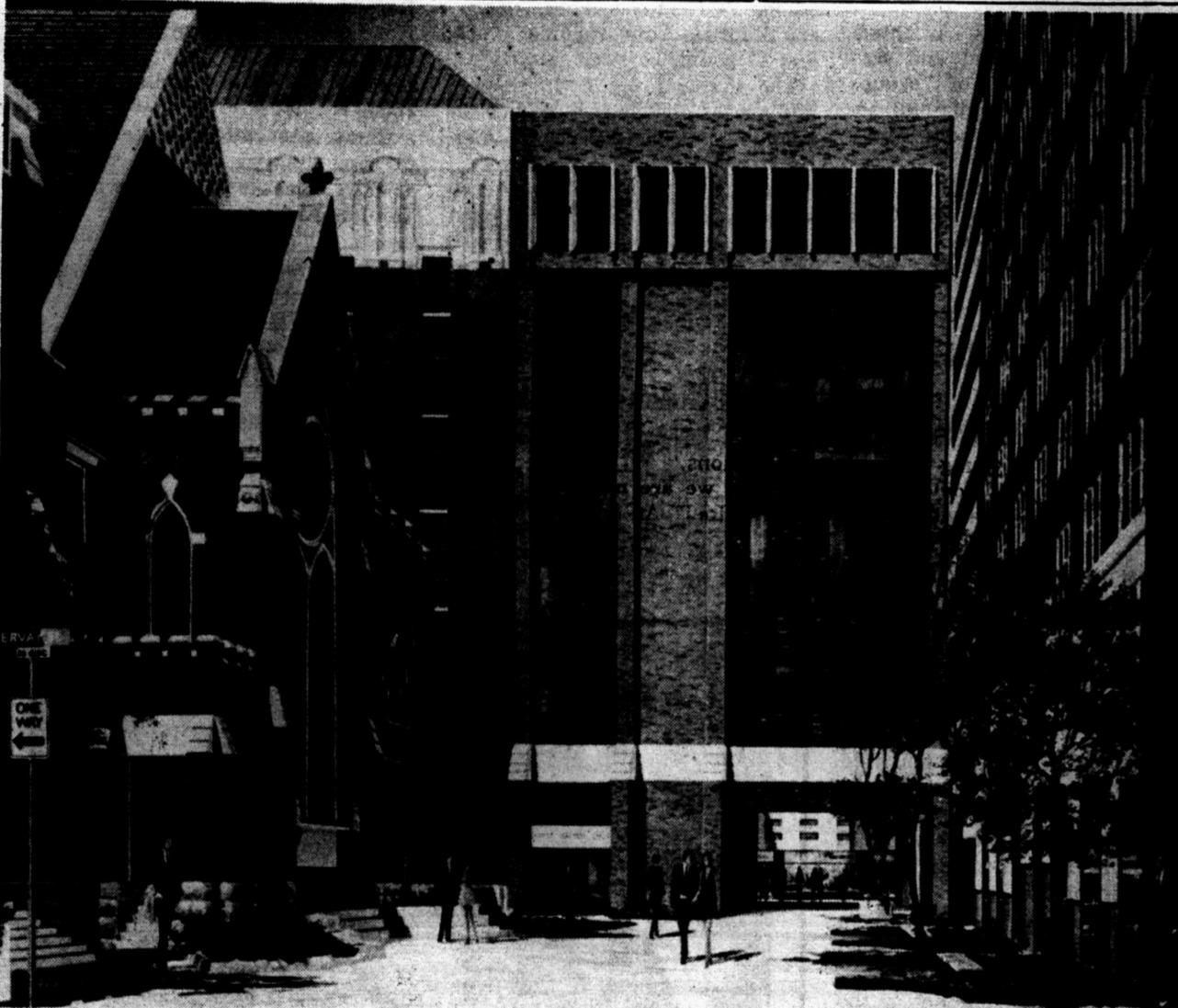
God has painted a picture just for me—
A rose-purple sunset beyond that tree.
A leaning oak on the Bogue Chitto River
Reflects a wind-blown image in waters quiver.

I lounge on a sand bar, and busy waves flow
With purpose, with strength that seems to grow;
And the colors that splash as the sun falls down
Re-sparkle the river, and hopes abound.

God has painted a picture just for me—
A scene as glorious as heaven must be.
I know it's all mine, 'cause I've looked to see,
And there's nobody—nobody—here but me.

—Violet Tackett

THE PARTY LINE



New Building At First, Dallas

First Baptist Church, Dallas, kicked off construction of its new \$3.1 million multi-purpose structure with ground breaking festivities Oct. 5. The ceremony commemorated not only the continuing growth of this downtown congregation, but also recognizes Dr. W. A. Criswell's 32nd anniversary as pastor. The new structure will be named in honor of Mrs. Mary Carter Crowley, president and sales manager of Home Interiors and Gifts, Inc., of Dallas. It will house expanding musical, educational, and recreational programs of the 18,731-member church. The Leroy Till Music Center, the

David Wicker Family Center, and the added Sunday School and nursery space will provide 41,000 square feet. An eight-level, masonry and bronze glass structure, FBC's newest addition will fit squarely between and connect the existing Truett Building and the Mary Slaughter Veal Parking and Recreation Building. An open-air landscaped pedestrian plaza will span the entire block of Patterson Street, extending through the building's first level. Church members have already pledged \$2 million towards the construction of the building, which is scheduled for completion in approximately 14 months.

International Student Conference Set For November 7-9 At Garaywa

The International Student Conference will be held at Camp Garaywa, November 7-9. Formerly called the International House-party, the state-wide international student emphasis was begun in 1955.

Serving as co-sponsors for the event will be the department of Student Work and the WMU Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Conference leaders include Mr. and Mrs. C. Benton Williams and Dr. and Mrs. Jack Burke. Mr. Williams is the Consultant for International Student Work, National Student Ministries, Nashville, and Dr. Burke is Director of International Student Services, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

The purpose of the conference is to let students of other religious backgrounds examine the Christian faith in an atmosphere of

complete understanding and respect for all religions. Basic Christian concepts are presented through informal addresses and open discussions in a manner which

appeals to inquiring, seeking students.

For additional information, contact Department of Student Work, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS.

Lecture On Famous Log Cabins To Be Presented At Blue Mountain

The Blue Mountain Branch of the American Association of University Women invites the public to attend the slidelecture presentation of *Famous Log Cabins of America* at its meeting on October 23. The group will assemble at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Building Conference Room, Blue Mountain College.

Mrs. Mary Gambrell Bobo Quinn, who will present the program, is a native of Chalybeate and presently resides in Senatobia. Her program is the result of a project which includ-

ed collecting slides and preparing narration regarding cabins throughout the nation. Mrs. Quinn's presentation was chosen to be placed in the National Daughters of the American Revolution Library in Washington, D. C. This Log Cabin lecture has been delivered in three states and is designed to engender and revive a greater love of country.

Mrs. Quinn, presently a partner in Whitwell-Quinn Insurance Agency, participates actively in the program of First Baptist Church, Senatobia, and in various civic organizations.

Harvest Song Remembered

How many times
have I read
"while the earth remaineth,
seedtime and harvest,
and cold and heat . . . shall not cease,"
marveled at earth's seasons
and thanked the Lord
for blessings
too numerous
to count?
I only know
when each morning comes
my heart sounds a reveille
of praise for Him
and a glory shines
in every ray of light.

—Eunice Barnes

Autumn Leaves Are Falling Fast

The autumn leaves are falling fast—
Yellow and gold and red and brown;
They sway and skip and even waltz
Before they finally drift on down.
And purple grapes, in clusters on the vine,
Are glistening in their coats of dew.
I search the honking in the sky
And see wild geese across the blue.
Just now a mocking bird has perched
Among the red-cheeked apples on the tree.
And some still say there is no God?
They must not see the things I see!

—Victoria Singley

To Autumn

Hedge-cricket sing; and now with treble soft
The red-breast whistles from a garden croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

—John Keats

To My Favorite Preacher

Preacher, you cannot know
How far your influence reached,
Because the life you lived
Was better than you preached.
Your sermons were superb
And they appealed to folk
But how you lived each day
Exceeded fine words you spoke.
We felt an excellence
About your faith and creeds,
But you influenced us most
With daily Christ-like deeds.
Preacher, you preached God's word
And we were thrilled to hear it,
But through your life and deeds
We caught the Christian Spirit.
Your kind could save the world
For all men still prefer,
Preachers who live better
Than their best sermons were.
God bless you always.

—By a Mississippi Baptist, for his/her pastor.

The Lord's Day

Keep the Lord's Day holy—
For the seventh day he rested,
He'd done his work on the other six—
As for the seventh day—He blessed it.

—ME Weeds against a coal bin on a rail siding in Owings Mills, Maryland, form an autumn composition. (RNS Photo by Lew Bush)

The Ranger (An Excerpt)

Gaily chattering to the clattering
Of the brown nuts downward patterning,
Leap the squirrels, red and gray.
On the grass-land, on the fallow,
Drop the apples, red and yellow,
Drop the russet pears and mellow,
Drop the red leaves all the day.
And away, swift away,
Sun and cloud, o'er hill and hollow
Chasing, weave their web of play.

John Greenleaf Whittier

—Edna St. Vincent Millay

A Charismatic Baptist

By Tal D. Bonham,
Director of Evangelism
Baptist General Convention
of Oklahoma

As I sat down by him on the plane, I noticed the little fish symbol of the Christian in the lapel of his expensive suit.

I asked as the plane left the runway, "Are you a Christian?" A smile came across the face of this young chemist, and he gladly responded, "Yes, Praise the Lord!"

"Are you charismatic?" he asked.

Without hesitation I said, "Yes, I am charismatic."

"I am sure glad to hear that you speak in tongues!" he exclaimed.

"But I do not speak in tongues," I explained.

"Well, I thought you said you were charismatic," he retorted.

"I am charismatic but I do not speak in tongues."

"I didn't think you could be charismatic without speaking in tongues," he argued.

We talked at length about the Greek words *charis* (grace) and *charisma* (gift) from which we get our word, "charismatic." We read Ephesians 2:8 which says, "For by grace are ye saved . . ." We read Acts 2:38 which indicates that, upon repenting of sin, one receives "the gift of the Holy Spirit."

We discussed four central truths related to the ministry of the Holy Spirit: (1) The gift of the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit

(Acts 2:33). (2) The gifts of the Holy Spirit are given by God as He chooses (I Corinthians 12:18). (3) The fruit of the Holy Spirit is evident in the life of the Spirit-filled Christian (Galatians 5:25). (4) God commands every Christian to be "filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18).

The plane landed at his destination. As he got up to leave, he said, "Thank you so much for sharing these truths with me."

He explained that he and his

wife had been saved in separate Baptist churches as children but they had become "church drop-outs" in college.

"After marriage, we felt a vacuum in our lives," he explained. He indicated that they had filled that vacuum, not by joining a church, but by joining an "undenominational Bible class."

"They taught us that one gets saved. Then he gets the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Then, he speaks" (Continued on page 8)

New Sacred Records And Tapes

FAMILY ALBUM —Tom Larrimore (Music Evangel) (Stereo record album) Tom Larrimore is a widely known music evangelist who is being used of God all across the Southern Baptist Convention. Formerly he was a music director and educational director in several churches. Tom's home is in Jackson, Miss., and his wife, Florence, works as a secretary in the office of the Baptist Record. In this new album, which Tom dedicates to his wife, he uses all three of his children in presenting a fine selection of his favorite songs. The accompanist is Bill Clark, also of Jackson, whom Tom considers almost as a member of his family. Featured are "Hallelujah Square" and "The Longer I Serve Him." Other favorite and outstanding numbers include "Reach Out to Jesus," "Jesus is the Sweetest

Name I Know," "His Name is Wonderful," "Because He Lives," "He Touched Me" and others. Tom's splendid baritone voice is at its best in the album, and each of the three children joins in one number. Florence and Tom are pictured in full color on the front of the jacket, and the children and Bill Clark on the back. You will enjoy this record for a long time. It sells for \$5.00 and may be ordered from Tom Larrimore, 1156 Winnrose, Jackson, Miss. 39211.

THE COLONIALS TAKE TWO —by the Colonials (8 track tape). The Colonials is a musical trio composed of Tom Larrimore, Bill Clark and Don Legg. For several years they sang together, with all joining in the singing and Bill Clark also accompanying them at the piano and organ. The trio is no longer together since Don Legg has moved away from Jackson. Their outstanding music has been preserved, however, in this 8 track tape. Here are ten selections, largely of the country gospel music style. Among the numbers are "Sweeter Gets the Journey," "The Light House," "What A Happy Day," "Without Him," "Redemption Draweth Nigh," and others. Order from Tom Larrimore, 1156 Winnrose, Jackson, Miss. Price \$6.00 postpaid.

Church Secretary's Portfolio, Vol. 2 (Broadman, \$4.95). A booklet and a cassette tape on the work of the church secretary. This volume deals with materials and supplies.

THE HOOKED GENERATION BY Jack Van Impe (Van Impe Crusade, Box J, Royal Oak, Mich.) Cassette tape sermon by this widely known evangelist. Deals with moving pictures, dress, liquor, and other problems this generation faces. A powerful sermon and testimony.

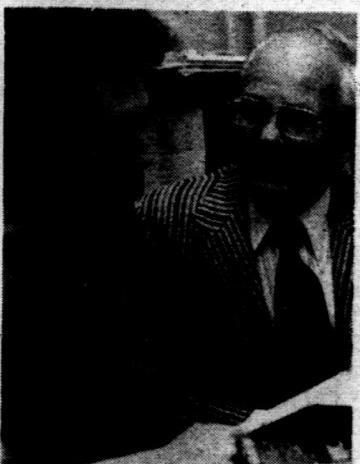
THE MIDDLE EAST PROPHETIES AND CHRIST'S RETURN by Jack Van Impe (Van Impe Crusades, Box J, Royal Oak, Mich. 48068). Cassette tape of sermon by a widely known Baptist evangelist. This message deals with signs of Christ's coming, which relate to the Middle East. The sermon is timely because of the present situation in that area.



Gore Springs To Mark 20th Year

Gore Springs Church will celebrate its 20th anniversary on October 19. Plans made by Mrs. Earl Gillon, chairman, and others on the Anniversary Committee include dinner on the grounds after the regular morning service, and an afternoon service (1:30 p.m.) in which former pastors and music directors will be special guests. Several projects set by the Anniversary Committee are nearing completion: a new church sign donated by C. V. McGee; memorial plaque for pastors; memorial marker in memory of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Gillon who donated the land for the church; and the purchase of new Baptist Hymnals (Tommy Gillon, music minister). Above, Rev. Jimmy McHann, right, pastor, and C. D. Jenkins, deacon chairman, look over plans for addition of a porch to the church.

Names In The News



Dr. James Travis (r), head of the Biblical Studies Division at Blue Mountain College, looks over the first edition of a two-volume *Wycliffe Bible Encyclopedia* with Melody Hendricks of Blue Mountain. The huge work has been released by Moody Press and took more than five years to compile. It features more than 20,000 entries, of which Dr. Travis contributed 100.

Travis Davis was ordained as a deacon on September 21 at Pleasant Hill Church, Bogue Chitto. Rev. Carl Dicker- son, pastor, was assisted by Rev. Eugene Roberts. Mr. Davis, born in Franklin County, later moved to Lincoln County where he made a public profession of faith as a young boy at Mt. Pleasant Church. He has been a member at Pleasant Hill 20 years. He is married to the former Lottie Mae Baker, and has two children and two grandchildren.

Malcolm Anderson and Clyde Bayington were ordained September 7 as deacons at Shivers Church, Simpson County. Rev. Nelson Fortenberry, pastor, presided. Rev. Tommy Anderson, Harrisville, preached the ordination sermon.

Rev. James A. Woody has resigned the pastorate of First Church, Brooklyn. The Georgia native is attending college fulltime and will graduate from William Carey in December. He has already enrolled for the January interterm of Southern Seminary. However, his family have moved to Hattiesburg. He is available for supply work in that area.

Mr. and Mrs. Van C. Payne, missionary journeymen, have arrived on the field (address: P. O. Box 30514, Nairobi, Kenya). Prior to August 1975, Payne was reporter, assignment editor and anchorman for WLOX-TV in Biloxi, Miss. Mrs. Payne, the former Gwen Gullage, taught in Harrison Central Elementary School, Gulfport.

Johnny Powell, missionary journeyman, has arrived on the field (address: Box 1416 Monrovia, Liberia). Prior to August 1975, Powell was employed at the Custom Cabinet Center, Clinton, Miss.

Rev. Larry Henderson, pastor of Nola Church, Brookhaven, was recently ordained to the gospel ministry by First Church, Ellisville. Native of Laurel, he is a graduate of Jones Junior College, William Carey College and is now a student at New Orleans Seminary. He served as summer youth director at First Ellisville. Rev. W. C. Burns, preached the ordination sermon and a Bible was presented to him by the Ellisville church.

Three Mississippi Baptists were writers for October-November-December 1975 literature published by the Sunday School Board. Bill Latham, an associate in the church training department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, wrote for "Source," a church training periodical; Judy H. Latham, (Mrs. Bill Latham) a member of Northside Church, Clinton, for "Exploring C-Leaders," also a church training publication; and Bob Simmons, formerly pastor of Fifteenth Avenue, Meridian, and now a missionary in Hong Kong, for "The Adult Teacher," a Sunday School quarterly.



Billy Bowie, right, son of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Bowie of Shelby, was licensed to the gospel ministry on September 21 by First Church, Shelby. A student at Northwest Mississippi Junior College, he is serving as BSU president. He is available for supply preaching. Rev. Charles R. Farmer, left, pastor, presented the license.

Jerry Lachina recently was named as a new editor of youth materials in the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Pratt J. Dean missionaries to Japan, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Mrs. V. L. Dean, Rte. 3, Box 356, Oxford, Ala. 38801). She is the former Rita Duke.

Stanley Harper, missionary journeyman, has arrived on the field (address: P. O. 735, Gatoomba, Rhodesia). Prior to August 1975, Harper was employed at the Crossgate Nursing Home, Brandon, Miss., and was a student at Mississippi College.

Hillman began operation in 1853 when it was chartered as Central Female Academy. Its first two presidents, William Duncan and Rev. Crawford, had short tenures with one and two year terms respectively. In 1856, Dr. Walter Hillman and his wife, who were northern educators, came to Clinton and Dr. Hillman began a term of service as president of the academy that lasted 37 years. The Hillmans were close friends of the famous Rice family of Clinton and with determined dedication, built "Female Institute" into an outstanding girls finishing school. Not only did students come from all over Mississippi, but also from neighboring states.

The school had the reputation of never missing a day in session, not even during the turbulent Civil War. Tradition holds that during Sherman's devastating ride across the South at the close of the war, he was so impressed by the Hillmans and the work they were doing at the Institute, he spared the school from being destroyed.

After the War Between the States ended, the college was in such bad financial shape that it was only saved because Dr. Hillman agreed to purchase the property. The school was thus saved from ruin and in 1862, the name was changed from Central Fe-

Foreign Fields Request 1,217 New Missionaries

RICHMOND (BP) — A plea for evangelistic workers headed the request for an additional 1,217 Southern Baptist foreign missionaries to reinforce, replace and begin new work in 1976.

The requests topped last year's number by almost 50 jobs. (Of the 1,014 missionaries requested for 1975, only 201 positions have been filled.) Southern Baptists now have more than 2,500 missionaries in over 80 countries.

The board's annual meeting to review the 1976 missionary situation was directed by Louis R. Cobbs, secretary of the department of missionary personnel. It was attended by staff members of the board's overseas division and the department of missionary personnel, including the four regional personnel representatives.

The regional representatives, located in Louisville, New Orleans, Kansas City and Fort Worth, will take the requests back to persons in area churches and nearby seminaries who are interested in missionary service.

Although the 1,217 requests for 1976 are divided into 46 categories of missionary service, 50 percent were for persons in the area of

evangelism and church development.

For every general evangelist appointed last year, there were 10 unfilled requests in that area of ministry.

"Again and again area secretaries use terms like 'wide open, responsive, unlimited opportunity,'" said R. Keith Parks, director of the mission support division. "Even in a place like Bangladesh, with all of its needs in terms of human relief, evangelism still has the highest priority."

Of the 59 countries requesting additional missionaries, only 15 do not list general evangelists within the top two priorities. Many of the areas list general evangelists as the top 10 priorities, inclusively.

In Eastern and South America, 80 percent of the requests are for couples and singles to work in church development, leadership training and preaching ministry.

Davis L. Saunders, the board's area secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa, said that over half the requests from his area are for evangelistic workers, while among appointments dur-

ing the past 12 months only three have been assigned to this type ministry. It has been about four years since a couple has been appointed for general evangelism in Rhodesia, he observed.

In Tanzania, over 8,400 nationals have been converted in 31 churches. Nationals have been baptized and have assumed roles as pastor of churches, but additional leadership is needed.

"We especially need young men and women who are graduates of our seminaries with some experience in pastoral work and church development," reported Saunders. "We need men who could begin a training program in a church and would actively participate in it as pastor."

According to Cobbs, the mission area most desperately in need of missionaries is East Asia (Hong Kong, Okinawa, Japan, Korea and Taiwan).

George H. Hays, area secretary for East Asia, said, "We would like to have a missionary advisor in each prefecture in Japan. In addition, there are 10 major cities where we have no evangelistic missionaries."

Over a three year period, however, East Asia has received only three couples in general evangelism — the least of any of the eight areas.

Besides evangelistic workers, a large number of medical needs continue. Physicians are requested for 14 countries where Southern Baptists have medical work, and 13 countries need nurses.

The demand for both doctors and nurses always far exceeds the available missionary candidates, Parks reports.

Although the number of missionaries on the field is slightly increasing (a net increase last year of 60 persons), the needs continue to rapidly multiply.

"As we face these overwhelming needs, we are aware that they will be met through the 34,734 Southern Baptist churches within the States; we are only a channel for placing missionaries on the field," Parks explained.

"We are confident that the Lord will continue to call people from those churches to meet the increasing needs."



Visitor From Maryland

A recent visitor to the Baptist Record offices was Walter Horn of Bladensburg, Maryland, a deacon and public relations director for the Central Baptist Church in that city. Bladensburg is a suburb of Washington, D. C. Mr. Horn was attending the Church Communications Conference, which was sponsored by our Convention Board and which was held at the Baptist Building recently. In the picture, Mr. Horn, who works in the press room of a Washington newspaper, is discussing the Baptist Record with Dr. Odile.

Bickkov, Claas Named To European Offices

BILTHOVEN, The Netherlands (BP) — Alexsei Bickkov, general secretary of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (AUCECB) in the USSR, was elected to a two-year term as president of the European Baptist Federation at the EBF's annual meeting here.

In another vote, Gerhard Claas, present general secretary of the Baptist Union of West Germany, was named secretary-treasurer-elect of the EBF, a regional fellowship of Baptist bodies in Europe.

Claas, associate secretary-elect of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), succeeds C. Ronald Goulding of London.

Harvest Day

At Wiggins

Wiggins Church (Leake) will hold annual Harvest Day services on October 19.

Services will begin at 10 with Sunday School followed by the Harvest Day message at 11.

Lunch will be served at noon. The Midways and Kingstons will sing in the afternoon.

Rev. Carlton Jones is pastor.

Historical Commission Seeks Church Bicentennial Material

NASHVILLE — The Southern Baptist Historical Commission has a "Bicentennial Events" hunt in progress and wants to hear from local churches across the Southern Baptist Convention.

Pastors or other persons responsible for promoting and publicizing U. S. Bicentennial-related events in local Southern Baptist congregations are urged by Lynn E. May, Jr., executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission, Nashville, to communicate what the church is doing to observe the Bicentennial.

The address is Dr. Lynn E. May Jr., Historical Commission, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37220.

May says the information is needed for a historical record; for a resume of plans to be published in the Historical Commission's journal, *Baptist History and Heritage*; and to share such information with Baptist Press, Southern Baptists' news service, for its series of Bicentennial news and feature stories.

Much of the information will be used in a special program feature on "Southern Baptists and Bicentennial Celebrations," at the Oct. 1, 1975, meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the Inter-Agency Council of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Representatives of local churches should note whether plans-projects are community-wide or statewide and whether or not they

are distinctly Baptist-oriented. All church involvement and significant involvement of groups or individuals in Bicentennial activities are worthy of note, May said.

"This is an opportunity for Southern Baptist churches to be individually recorded and recognized in Baptist history," May said.

MC Enrollment For Year Shows Marked Increase

Mississippi College has once again shown a marked increase in its 12-month enrollment for the 1974-75 school year, with just short of 3,800 individuals enrolled during the session in one of its varied programs.

According to figures released by Registrar Troy Mohon, there were 3,496 persons enrolled this past year as compared to 3,338 for the previous 12-month period, for a gain of 158.

The final tally for the session which ended last month revealed there was an increase in the regular nine month enrollment, in the summer enrollment and in the graduate enrollment.

The 3,496 students registered for the 12-months was the highest in the college's history.



Water For Bangladesh

The Cooperative Program put money in my hand to help the tragic land of Bangladesh. In 1970 the greatest physical disaster of this century struck the southern shores of this land. More than one-half million lost their lives. Southern Baptists were soon at work in sinking wells. Many of the women came for fresh drinking water and some of them learned of the Living Water. These 375 wells were made possible because of the Cooperative Program. In 1971, Bangladesh won independence. The struggling new nation had many services disrupted, more than ten million refugees who fled to India. Many were homeless and sick. More than \$225,000 came for relief because of the Cooperative Program. We built homes, gave medicines and food.

And, now, The Cooperative Program made it possible for us to respond when the bad flood hit this land in 1974. Many were starving. Cooperative Program money bought food, medicines, ducks, chickens, rice and wheat seed.

All that we do in this tragic land is strengthened by the Cooperative Program. Because we share through the Cooperative Program, they knew we care.

Tom Thurman

Bangladesh



"Football is in my bloodstream..."

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BROADMAN



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Abraham: Willing To Give What God Asks

By Wm. J. Fallis

Genesis 22:1-19

Abraham was born in a community where many gods were worshiped. Despite that background, Abraham responded to the Lord (Yahweh) and eventually was willing to answer his call to seek a country he did not know. As he moved through Canaan, he built altars and worshiped the Lord only, not at all inclined to honor the gods of the Canaanites. Because the Lord had made a covenant with him, Abraham committed himself to him as the one true God. Although the first deed in God's promise was a long time in coming, Abraham had faith that God would do what he said.



The Lesson Explained ABRAHAM RESPONDS TO GOD'S COMMAND (vv. 1-4)

According to the Lord's prediction, Sarah did bear a son, and they called him Isaac. What seemed impossible to everyone—especially the parents—had happened. That son was the key to Abraham's future; through him Abraham could think that he might indeed become the father of a nation. That son would have sons, and they would have sons. The impossible had changed their lives.

Then Abraham heard God call his name, and when he answered, he heard a staggering command. Abraham was to take his only son and offer him as a burnt offering at some distant mountain. The first verse lets us know that God was testing (not tempting) Abraham, but Abraham did not

know it. Archaeological excavations at some points in Palestine indicate that child sacrifice was practiced. Abraham may have known of it and wondered how it could be done and whether he had that much devotion to his own God. Now God had challenged him at that point. Early the next morning he made preparations, and they left their camp to find the mount.

FATHER AND SON AT THE ALTAR vv. (5-10)

They were heading for "the land of Moriah." While 2 Chronicles 3:1 says the site of Solomon's Temple was Mount Moriah, it does not relate to it this experience of Abraham. We do not know where it was except that it was three days from Beersheba. When Abraham realized they were within sight of the mountain, he instructed the young men to keep the

animal and wait there for their return after he and Isaac had worshipped. Then he gave Isaac the load of split wood, and Abraham carried the embers or torch and the knife. As they walked, Isaac asked the obvious question: "Where is the lamb?" And Abraham answered in steady voice with great wisdom and gentleness. At the appointed place, Abraham did everything in the proper order until finally he was holding the knife over his only son.

GOD COMMENDS ABRAHAM'S LOYALTY (vv. 11-13)

In the moment before he would take Isaac's life, Abraham heard a voice calling him from heaven. As he lowered his hand, he heard the voice strongly forbid him to hurt his son, and that answered once for all any questions about human sacrifice among the Hebrews.

Then God commanded Abraham for his utter loyalty; fearing God meant wholehearted commitment to him. Abraham had passed the test; he was willing to give whatever God asked. Abraham looked around and saw a ram caught in a thicket. Perhaps it had been there all the time, but he had just noticed it. He could have thought: "Let's leave this place at once." Instead, he was so grateful to God that he caught the ram and sacrificed it on the altar.

For more weeks than I cared to admit, my hearing had been fading. Finally, several days before, my left ear had stopped up almost completely. Only muffled, nearby sounds could get through. The right ear had intermittently followed suit. So, I was finally in the doctor's office.

"Do you know what made me finally come to see about my ears?" I asked while I twisted cotton around the end of a slender stick. I didn't care to tell him why I had not come sooner to see him—fear of deafness, fear he would send me to an orthodontist for correction of a terribly off-bite.

"What?"

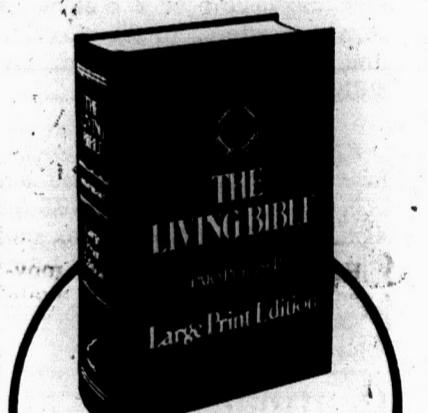
"I couldn't hear the rain last night."

That muted loveliness of sound—probably my favorite non-human or non-musical sound—was going on, and I couldn't hear it.

The doctor knew what to do about my ears. As I left the office and as I drove home, I heard sounds, small, brittle, keen sounds I'd forgotten about. When I got home, I listened, and again could hear the new-old sounds, the sound of sitting down on a taffeta bedspread, the squeaking of my gray shoes, the whispering grinds of the digital clock, all around old friends of sound greeted me.

It occurred to me that, in like manner, sin blocks my spiritual perception, muffling, muting, even closing out some of the beauties of life in Christ, replacing them with thuds, bumps, roars.

The delightful thing is that my Heavenly Father knows what to do about it. It's a lovely process called forgiveness.



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An actual sample of the type:
18 He told his disciples, "The kingdom of God belongs to those who are like little children."

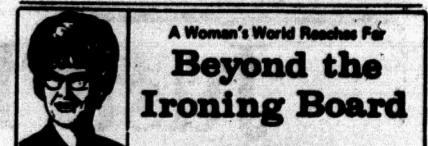
... have been given all in heaven and earth.



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Special Church Terms Available



A Woman's World Reader
Beyond the Ironing Board

First, the nurse brought in two small bottles of a clear liquid. Then the doctor came in, affixing one of the bottles to a power attachment, readying it to aim into my ear.

For more weeks than I cared to admit, my hearing had been fading. Finally, several days before, my left ear had stopped up almost completely. Only muffled, nearby sounds could get through. The right ear had intermittently followed suit. So, I was finally in the doctor's office.

"Do you know what made me finally come to see about my ears?" I asked while I twisted cotton around the end of a slender stick. I didn't care to tell him why I had not come sooner to see him—fear of deafness, fear he would send me to an orthodontist for correction of a terribly off-bite.

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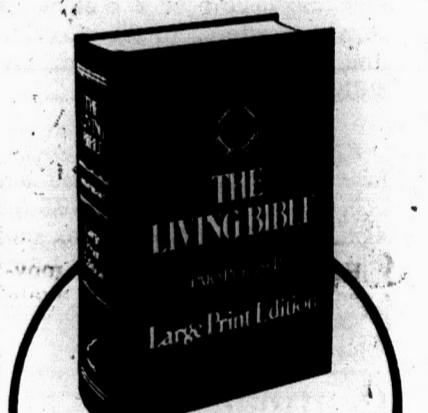
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... have been given all in heaven and earth.



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Special Church Terms Available

a tempo—Baptist Young Women Emphasis

To Begin With International Fashion Show

An international fashion design style show in October will be the first event in a tempo, WMU plan for highlighting Baptist Young Women during 1975-76.

In addition to viewing international fashions, the young women who attend will be informed about the Baptist Young Women organization. Free scripts and plans for this style show are available from the WMU Office, Box 530, Jackson 39205.

Three other special activities, designed to stimulate interest in and strength to BYW, are planned for later. They will include a mission study retreat in January or February, a mission support banquet in April, and a mission action project in June, July, or August.

Key BYWs will be enlisted to organize Baptist Young Women for young women in specific life situations. A key BYW from a particular life situation such as married and working, married and children, single and career, or college, will be instrumental in beginning a BYW in her church for those in the same life situation.

The international style show, the mission study retreat, the missions support banquet, and the mission action project will help key BYWs as they seek to interest young women 18 to 29 years of age in BYW.

a tempo seeks to accomplish five goals: to have a new BYW organization in every church; to provide associational BYW directors and activities in each association; to involve young adult women in mission through BYW; to conduct orientation for new members; and to strengthen the quality of present BYW members.

Sunshine To Mark

15th Anniversary

Members of Sunshine Church, Rankin County, will celebrate the church's 15th anniversary on October 19, with homecoming and open house. Dinner on the grounds will follow the morning services (Sunday School at 9:45 and worship at 11). Rev. Mike Willoughby is pastor; Rev. Bill Souther is minister of music.

Dates Approach For District Youth Music Festivals



The International Fashion Design Style Show was presented by the Baptist Young Women of Pearl Church. Fifty young women from other churches in the Pearl area attended. Models were: front row — Mrs. Lynn Harper; second row — Mrs. Ouida Lane, Mrs. Annette Lott; third row — Mrs. Rita Rogers, Mrs. Johnnie Bush, Mrs. Janice Campbell, Mrs. Rhonda Armstrong.

Central CT Breaks Three Records

Central Church, Brookhaven, is the Sunday Night place. Under the leadership of Richard Thurman, Church Training director, Central has broken its high attendance record three times this church year; June 22 with an enrollment of 170 there was an attendance of 152; August 17 enrollment of 176 attendance 153; September 28 enrollment 188 attendance 161.

The pastor, Rev. H. Glen Schilling gives all credit to person-to-person contact with the encouragement and direction of the director and outreach leaders.

Central CT Breaks Three Records

15th Anniversary

Members of Sunshine Church, Rankin County, will celebrate the church's 15th anniversary on October 19, with homecoming and open house. Dinner on the grounds will follow the morning services (Sunday School at 9:45 and worship at 11). Rev. Mike Willoughby is pastor; Rev. Bill Souther is minister of music.

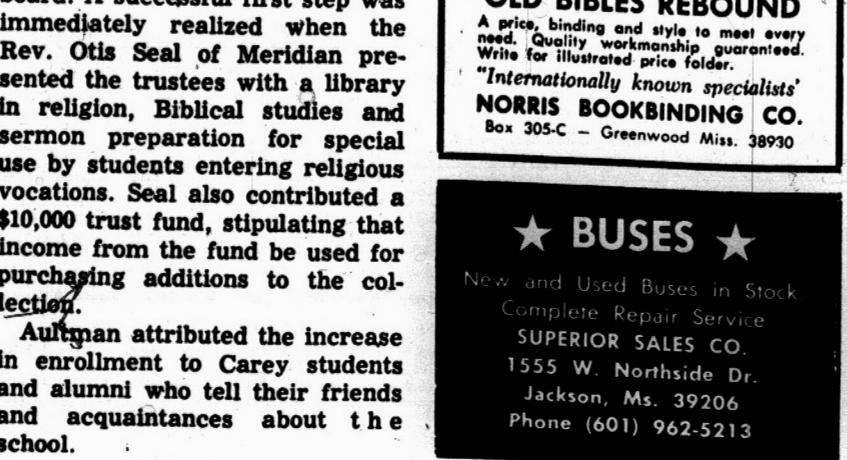
Dates Approach For District Youth Music Festivals

A current 26 per cent increase in student enrollment sets another record at William Carey College according to Dr. Bruce Aultman, chairman of the board of trustees.

Following the board's regular quarterly meeting, fall semester enrollment figures, a financial report, and a priority for future development were made public. Enrollment this year totals 1,627 compared to 1,259 last year. Aultman said the growth is reflected in all areas of the college, including the arts and sciences, music, nursing, and graduate and continuing education.

The audit committee reported a balanced budget with an operating surplus of \$29,000 for the fiscal year ending May 31. The board adopted a revised operating budget for the present fiscal year.

Aultman attributed the increase in enrollment to Carey students and alumni who tell their friends and acquaintances about the school.



Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

Mission To People

Matthew 9:1-13

By Bill Duncan

Rev. Andy Anderson has brought about a fresh new approach to Sunday School enlistment with his program of "Action." It is based upon the idea that "we are not in the percentage of attendance business of Sunday School, but we are in the people business."

People matter. People are important. People mattered to Jesus Christ. He was touched deeply by human tears and suffering. If being a Christian is being Christ-like, then we want to know what he was like.

The Gospels reveal Jesus as "the man for others." Whatever Jesus did shows the love of God for people. He invites himself home to lunch with Zacchaeus. He went to the marriage celebration in Cana. He takes time to talk with a woman of bad reputation at the well of Sychar. Jesus took time for people. He was interested in their lives as well as their souls.

For Jesus there was only one obligation in life and that was to help people. There was only one law and that law was love. This made Jesus defy all physical risk, such as the touch of a leper which was the reaction of compassion.

Miracles for People

The authority of Jesus over disease, sin, nature and demons is the theme of Matthew 8 and 9. There are ten miracles brought together by the writer of Matthew. The fact of the miracles is not questioned by the followers or the foes of Jesus. The Pharisees questioned only the source of his power and his right to do it (9:34).

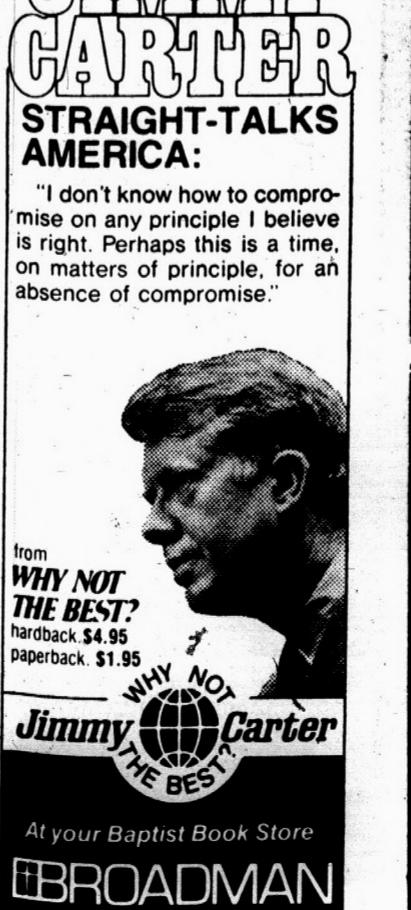
Jesus was inclined toward miracles of mercy to meet human needs, yet he drew back from the role of wonder-worker and from followers whose faith was dependent upon miracles. To Jesus the miracles were both acts of mercy to people and signs that the Kingdom of God had come. The miracle was used as a sign having instructional and evidential value for faith. Jesus performed

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Just For The Record

Bicentennial Choir To Sing For Gulf Coast Association

Gulf Coast Association is holding an associational adult music workshop this week, October 13, 14, and 15, from 7 to 8 p.m., at Grace Memorial Church, Gulfport.

In addition to the music classes, a special associational Bicentennial Choir is practicing during the workshop. This mass choir will provide special music for the annual meeting of the Gulf Coast Association October 20 and 21. Jim Hayes is directing the choir. Arnold Bridges is associational music director.

Gus Garrett Moves To Mt. Comfort

Rev. Gus Garrett has accepted a call to Mt. Comfort Church, Bruce, and is now on the field.

Mashulavich Church, Macon, where Mr. Garrett was formerly pastor, presented the Garretts with two paintings done by Mrs. B. Waddell de Kalb, at a fellowship supper, along with many other gifts.

Mt. Comfort Church on Sunday night, September 28, after an inspirational song service, surprised Mr. and Mrs. Garrett with a supper in the dining hall of the church where they presented them with a freezer and pantry "stock-up."

Salem Homecoming

Salem Church (Walhall) will observe their Homecoming Day on October 19. Regular morning worship will be followed by "dinner on the grounds." There will be a dedication service of the new pastorum at 2 o'clock. All former pastors, music directors, and members are invited. Rev. Billy Murphy is pastor.

PARAMARIBO, Surinam— Nine new converts were baptized here recently by Southern Baptist missionary Leo E. Waldrop. Six more will be baptized in the near future.

Woodland Hills Continues S S Classes For Deaf

Every Sunday morning two buses pull up at Woodland Hills Church, Jackson and students from the Mississippi School for the Deaf pour out. Each child heads for his Sunday School class, of which there are six. Every class is led by capable teachers, some of whom are deaf. The deaf adults are not forgotten in the church program. A large group is present every Sunday for Bible study in the adult class.

All summer a group has been involved in a sign language class in an effort to learn how to communicate effectively. Prior to the first Sunday with the children the teachers spent a Saturday morning in a workshop sharing literature, methods, study helps, and ideas they had used. Every week each teacher spends a great deal of time in individual preparation. A second sign language class is also getting under way for beginners.

The Sunday morning worship service is also being interpreted for the deaf. Several interpreters share this responsibility.

A Charismatic Baptist

(Continued from page 5)

With briefcase and newspaper in hand, he paused a minute before starting down the aisle of the plane. Then he made a most interesting observation.

"I guess," he said, "that I have been letting the experiences of other people interpret the Bible for me rather than letting the Bible show me what kind of experience I am supposed to have."

Revival Dates

First Church, Clinton: October 19-23; Rev. Charles Carter, pastor of Shades Mountain Church, Birmingham, evangelist; R. L. and Beth Sigrest, Yazoo City, music evangelists; services 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

West Side (Macon): Oct. 19-25; Rev. J. R. Boutwell, pastor of Grace Memorial Church, Picayune, evangelist; W. C. Rainey, Jr., music director; Mrs. Pat Gill, pianist; services on Sunday at 11 a.m., each night 7:30; Rev. Kenneth Overby, pastor.

Calvary, Natchez

Homecoming Oct. 19

On October 19, Calvary Church, Natchez, (Adams) will celebrate its 23rd anniversary with a special time of praise and worship. The program will include recognition of former pastors and charter members, reading of the church history, licensing of Larry D. Smith to the gospel ministry and "dinner on the grounds."

Program personalities will include Rev. Leon Emery, Church Administration Consultant, MBCB; Rev. Richard D. Pass, director of missions, Adams Assn.; Lewis Kall and Laura Foster, music duo, and the "C'ettes," musical group from Clarke College.

Calvary Church has a fully graded Sunday School with its teachers having attended the associational training school, has experienced a 100% increase in attendance.

Rev. Bob O'Neal will be guest preacher for homecoming day at First Church, Minter City (LeFlore) on October 19. He will speak at 11 a.m.

Homecoming At 1st, Minter City

Singing will follow dinner on the grounds, according to Rev. Larry McDaniel, pastor.

Stonewall Homecoming

Rev. Bobby Jones, pastor of Stonewall will be the speaker for Homecoming Day, on October 19. There will be "dinner on the grounds" followed by a song service. All former friends and members are invited.

He was serving the second three-year term as a member of the Historical Commission at the time of his death.

Funeral services were conducted at First Church, Pontotoc, on Friday, August 29, by his former pastor, Dr. W. Levon Moore.

Historical Commission Chairman Dies

Funeral services were held recently for George T. Rodgers, chairman of the Historical Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. He died of a heart attack while hospitalized at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

A native of Pontotoc and a long-time member of First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, he was a school administrator for most of his adult life.

He was serving the second three-year term as a member of the Historical Commission at the time of his death.

Funeral services were conducted at First Church, Pontotoc, on Friday, August 29, by his former pastor, Dr. W. Levon Moore.

Broadmoor Church Choir To Repeat "Alleluia!"

ALLELUIA!, the "praise-gathering for believers" by Ron Huff and Bill and Gloria Gaither, will be done in a repeat performance at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, Tuesday October 21, at 7 p.m.

J. M. Wood, minister of music at Broadmoor, announces that the church choir is repeating this performance by request, and has arranged the concert on a week night in order that friends from other churches may attend. In the production of this work, Mr. Wood and Mrs. Ed Hamilton, director of the drama and special effects, have involved choir members along with deacons and other church leaders.

Dr. David R. Grant, pastor at Broadmoor, extends an invitation to interested persons in the area to attend.

TAIPEI, Taiwan — In recent ceremonies, the Asia Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary presented its 25th graduate, Miss Wang Chi. The Asia Graduate Seminary, which maintains administrative offices but no campus, works with area seminaries through extension methods to provide graduate students with guidance and graduate level studies.



State Boulevard Builds Family Life Center

State Boulevard Church, Meridian, broke ground recently for the Family Life Center building now under construction and scheduled for completion in about six months. The two-story building will include recreation facilities for all ages, a fellowship hall, and a kitchen. Pictured breaking the first ground are, l to r: Dr. A. C. Johnson, chairman of the Building Committee; Darius Hatchett, a member of the Building Committee; and Rev. W. A. Robinson, pastor of the church for more than 14 years.

Devotional

Praying For One Another

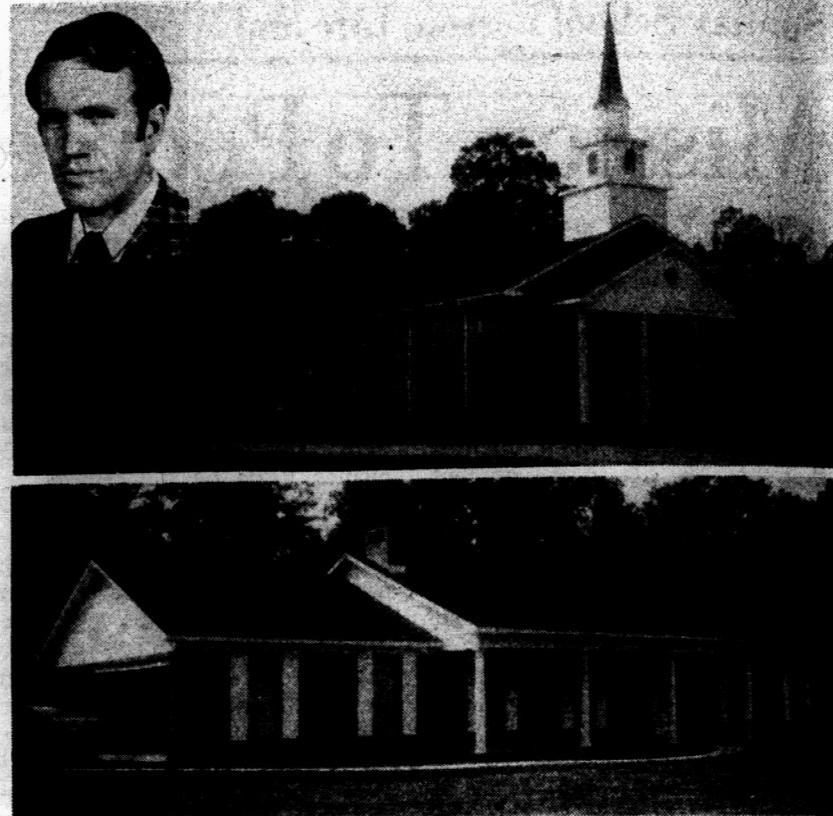
By L. Edward Gandy, Pastor, First, Bruce
Pray at all times with every kind of spiritual prayer, keeping alert and persistent as you pray for all Christ's men and women (Ephesians 6:18, Phillip's).

Sometime we forget that prayer is to be one of the priorities in the Christian's life. As we pray, we are taught to pray for one another as Christians. I. We should pray for one another because of our relationship to one another. We are uniquely related to one another in Christ. For instance, we are all members of the same body in Christ. Members of this body should care for one another. And, we should pray for one another.

Furthermore, we are all members of the same family. At my house, we care for one another as a family. We do things for one another. We love one another. We are members of God's family in Christ. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ. The most normal thing in the world is for brothers and sisters in the spirit to care for one another and to do things for one another. Certainly we should care enough to pray for one another.

II. We should pray for one another because of our responsibilities to one another. When we became members of God's family in Christ, we became responsible to one another. Part of this responsibility is to pray for one another. We should pray for backslidden Christians. They do not need calloused condemnation, but, rather, they need Christian compassion. We should pray for bereaved and burden Christians. We should pray for Christians who are in places of responsibility. We should pray for our Pastors. Paul's plea to the brethren that they pray for him is the plea of every pastor.

The prophet of God, Samuel said to the Israelites, "God forbid that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you." Let us not forget to pray for one another.



Antioch (Rankin) Dedicates Pastorum

Antioch Church, Rankin County, held dedication ceremonies September 28 for their new pastorum, bottom photo. Antioch was organized in May, 1836, with eight charter members. The first church building was a log structure, using timber from the surrounding woodland. The present structure, top photo, was completed April 1, 1971. Rev. James N. Gill, insert, has been pastor there for two years.



Home Economics Scholarship Established

Dr. Frances McGuffee (left), head of the Department of Home Economics at Mississippi College, has joined with other family members and friends to establish the Walter B. McGuffee Memorial Scholarship in home economics in memory of her husband, who died earlier this year. She talks over terms of the scholarship with Dr. Charles E. Martin, vice-president for academic affairs, while two students in the pre-med area of the department busily work on some art work. (M. C. Photo by Norman H. Gough)



New Oak Grove Dedicates Buildings

New Oak Grove, Union County, dedicated a new 24 x 36 education and fellowship building (top photo) on September 21. On the same date they dedicated their redecorated pastorum (bottom). During the year and a half that Rev. Billy F. Dunahoo has been pastor, the church has added 23 by baptism and 13 by letter. They recently called an assistant pastor and youth director, Rev. James Towery and a choir director, Elvin Willard. During the past year attendance has doubled. The church has licensed one to the gospel ministry, Roy Knighton, Jr.

Conference For New CT Directors

Scheduled For October 27-30

Newly elected Church Training directors will be given special training for their responsibilities this year, according to Kermit S. King, who has announced a series of conferences for new Church Training directors. King, director of the Mississippi Church Training Department, has provided information about these conferences scheduled for Oct. 27-30.

These conferences are located in 10 strategic areas and are planned to accomplish three basic purposes. These are to impress upon each new Church Training director the scope of his or her responsibilities, to make each new Church Training directors some definite actions for enlarging and

improving the Church Training program.

Conference leaders will be Bill Latham, Norman A. Rodgers, and King, all of the Mississippi Church Training Department staff, and Bob McKee, Minister of Education, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson.

Conferences will begin at 7 p.m. and have been scheduled for the following dates and locations:

Oct. 27—First, Brookhaven; North Greenwood; First, Booneville; and First, Biloxi.

Oct. 28—First, Columbia; First, Starkville; and North Oxford.

Oct. 30—Highland, Laurel; First, Carthage; and Oakhurst, Clarksdale.

S. S. Lesson

(Continued from page 7)

to Jesus carried by his friends. Jesus seeing the faith of those who brought the paralytic, responded to the need. Had it not been for his friends this man would never have reached the healing presence of Jesus at all. We cannot make a man a Christian, but we can do everything possible to bring that man into the presence of Jesus Christ.

Jesus began with the problem of the man's sins. He began by saying that his sins were forgiven. There was a belief that all sickness was the result of sin. Jesus did not see sin as ultimately behind all human illness because in John 9:2 he responded to the question of the disciples, who sinned, this man or his parents that he should be born blind? Jesus responded by saying, "Neither this man nor his parents." In the case of Matt. 9:1-2 sin may have been the cause of his condition. Once Jesus brought to him forgiveness of God, he knew that he was right with God, he knew that God was not his enemy, but his friend, and therefore he was cured.

Forgiveness is generally considered easier than healing. Jesus offered proof he could heal and supported his claim to be able also to forgive sins. For us, forgiveness is harder, for we have made great progress in healing diseases but very little in forgiving one another.

The majesty of Jesus in claiming the authority to forgive sin

was overwhelming. Such authority ranked with God. The people marveled that God had given such authority and power to anyone and they glorified God.

As Son of Man, Jesus claimed the authority. This is the idea of Daniel 7:13-22. Jesus was not only to preach about God, He was.

Man's great need is to have a right relationship to God. In the ministry of Jesus this was his ultimate goal.

Matthew modestly inserts his testimony as evidence of the people's response. He was a tax collector, engaged in collecting export duties for the Roman government. Most people considered the tax collectors dishonest. For this reason they were despised by the Pharisees. But Jesus went to Matthew with divine authority, laid his hand upon him and called him into a life of service in the Kingdom. Matthew did not waver when Jesus called. He arose and followed Jesus as the King of his life.

Here is one of the greatest instances in the New Testament of Jesus' power to see in a man not only what he was but also that which he could be. No one ever had such faith in the possibilities of human nature as Jesus had.

The people's response was faith and obedience to the call of Jesus. Matthew felt all and followed Jesus Christ. What he lost was never very important because of what he found in Jesus Christ. He left a material life to become involved in a spiritual enterprise. Jesus

Off The Record

A little old lady was sightseeing in Washington, D. C. and wasn't sure which side of "C" Street the State Dept. was on. She stopped a passing Marine and queried, "Which side is the State Dept. on?" He replied, "Ours, I think!"

"Where was the defect that made it necessary to recall your car?" "In my bank account."

The woman motorist, on her trip through Europe, posed for a souvenir snapshot next to an historic ruin in Greece.

"Don't get the car in the picture," she cautioned. "My husband will be certain I ran into the place."

When a not-too handsome swain proposed marriage, he said, "I know I'm not much to look at." The young lady replied, "That's all right. You'll be at the office most of the time."

Summoning a porter, a passenger on a Pullman sleeping car showed him that one black shoe and one brown one had been put in his roostette. "Now isn't that peculiar?" the porter declared. "That's the second time this morning such a thing has happened right here on this same car!"

A very tired commuter waited for his regular train on the station platform one night. Due to some sort of small emergency a non-stop express train made an unexpected halt at the station and the weary commuter quickly stepped aboard.

"You can't get on here," the conductor said taking him by the arm. "This train doesn't stop here."

"Okay," said the exhausted businessman. "Pay no attention to me. If the train doesn't stop here, then I'm not on it!"—Nuggets.

I'll tell you how expensive Europe is. While there I saw an Arab sending home for more money.—BOB ORBEN.

could use what Matthew had in his life and yet he gave him so much more.